

Who's Your Boss? Prioritizing Your Life

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Mark 11:27 - 12:12 (NIV)

²⁷They arrived again in Jerusalem, and while Jesus was walking in the temple courts, the chief priests, 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?" ²⁹Jesus 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 of human origin? Tell me!" ³¹They 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, 'Of human origin' ..." (They feared the people, for everyone held that John really was a prophet.) ³³So they answered Jesus, "We don't know." Jesus said, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things."

¹Jesus then began to speak to them in parables: "A man planted a vineyard. He put a wall around it, dug a pit for the winepress and built a watchtower. Then he rented the vineyard to some farmers and moved to another place. ²At harvest time he sent a servant to the tenants to collect from them some of the fruit of the vineyard. ³But they seized him, beat him and sent him away empty-handed." ⁴Then he sent another servant to them; they struck this man on the head and treated him shamefully. ⁵He sent still another, and that one they killed. He sent many others; some of them they beat, others they killed. ⁶"He had one left to send, a son, whom he loved. He sent him last of all, saying, 'They will respect my son.'" ⁷But the tenants said to one another, "This is the heir. Come, let's kill him, and the inheritance will be ours." ⁸So they took him and killed him, and threw him out of the vineyard. ⁹"What then will the owner of the vineyard do? He will come and kill those tenants and give the vineyard to others." ¹⁰Haven't you read this passage of Scripture: "The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; ¹¹the Lord has done this, and it is marvelous in our eyes'?" ¹²Then the chief priests, the teachers of the law and the elders looked for a way to arrest him because they knew he had spoken the parable against them. But they were afraid of the crowd; so they left him and went away.

- **You are a tenant living in a borrowed "vineyard".** (vs. 27-28, 12:1; 1 Corinthians 6:19-20)

"The problem with many is that they have an unhealthy 'ownership' of things and of themselves."

- **There can only be one Boss; and even though you cannot see Him His authority is very real.** (vs. 6-11; Matt 6:24; Matt 28:16-20)

- **What will you do with Jesus? Will make Him your boss! Will you trust Him with every aspect of your life?** (vs. 8-11; John 1:11-12; Proverbs 3:5-6)

"He is God's ultimatum. Nothing remains when Christ is refused. No one else can be sent; heaven itself contains no further messenger. If Christ be rejected, hope is rejected." Spurgeon