

It's About Authority
February 25, 2024

Introduction:

Text: Mark 1:21-34

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Big Idea: My obedience or disobedience is connected to my understanding of Jesus' authority.

#1- 1. The _____ of Jesus distinguished his _____ (Mark 1:21-22)

- *Mark wants us to observe very early in his gospel the character of Jesus' ministry.*
 - *AUTHORITY marked Jesus' life*
 - *Teaching ministry*
 - *Casting out demons*
 - *Healing ministry*
- The teaching of Jesus versus Scribes
 - Spoke with _____ authority ("So and so says...")
 - Spoke with _____ authority ("Truly, truly I say to you...")
- Life changing faith understands the power and authority of Jesus Christ.

#2- The _____ of Jesus validated His AUTHORITY (1:23-34)

- Jesus had authority over the _____ realm (23-28)
 - Demonic possession is the satanic counterfeit of the indwelling of the Holy Spirit
 - The Holy Spirit comes and indwells believers and makes them more human—holy and flourishing as God designed us to be.
 - But demons enter into someone to take control of them in order to steal, kill and destroy (Mark 9:20-22)
 - Worth noting that the demons had a perfect theology
- Jesus had authority over the _____ realm (29-34)
 - People in Jesus' day did not have medicine to keep a fever from rising, and so fever was a deadly killer. We forget how many lives aspirin has spared!

#3-Case study on the faith of a Centurion (Matthew 8:5-13, Luke 7:1-10)

- A centurion was a Roman army career officer in charge of 100 soldiers.
- As a roman soldier in Israel, normally he would have been treated with hostility as a foreign invader. But not this man, he won the respect and friendship of Jews in Capernaum.
- Jesus "marveled at him" because he understood _____.

**Authority
demands a
RESPONSE!**

Truth into Action:

#1-It is not possible to remain neutral to Jesus' authority. Authority can be **accepted**, or Authority can be **rejected**. **WHICH IS YOUR CHOICE?**

#2-Faith that flourishes acknowledges Jesus' authority. **Live surrendered to Jesus!**

CONNECT CARD NEXT STEP:

#1-Ask the question, "Are you a man or woman who lives under the authority of Jesus?"

#2-Genuine faith restores God to His place as your supreme authority! Will you bow before the Maker of heaven and earth today?

#3-Let us know how we can help you and pray for you.



Please understand we want to help you know Jesus personally and journey with you in taking fresh steps of obedience daily. We would love to pray with you and for you. Join us at the end of the service for prayer or send us your request on the Connect Card and we will lift them up throughout the week.

Table Talk

Warm Up: Read Colossians 1:15-20 think about the power and authority that Jesus must have in order to create everything from the macro level (all that the eyes can see), down to the micro level (all of the micro-organisms and elements in the soil and water that are too small even for our eyes to see).

1. List the different people and groups involved in this passage:
2. Make another list of some of the action verbs used in this account:
3. In the word AUTHORITY you see the word “author”. Why is that significant?
4. James, John, and Simon Peter had faith that Jesus could handle this situation with Simon’s mother-in-law. Even though Jesus has displayed his power and authority time and time again throughout Scripture, how are you tempted to disbelieve that Jesus can handle your situation or someone else’s difficult situation?
5. If Satan can discourage us to the point where we stop believing in Christ’s authority, then he will have successfully isolated us and made us very vulnerable. Jesus has the same authority today, but he often waits for his people to believe and ask for him to come intercede... choose to be a person who consistently asks him to intercede for others, having faith that he has the ultimate authority to work in every situation.
6. Jesus has authority over the spiritual and physical realms of your life as well. How might this truth cause you press into Him this week? In what ways are you encouraged by what Jesus does in this passage?

Closing Prayer: Thank you Father for the Bible and what it teaches me about how I can rightly relate to you. Help me to have the kind of faith modeled by the centurion (Luke 7:1-10).

Resources:

- Jan David Hettinga, Follow Me: Experience the loving leadership of Jesus
- R. C. Sproul, The Gospel of Mark;
- Tim Keller, Chris the King
- Life Application Bible Commentary, Mark
- Jason Meyer, Mark for You
- Gaebelien (Ed.), The Expositor’s Bible Commentary: Mark