**LUKE: Investigating the Real Jesus**

**Who’s Your Authority?, Luke 20:1-20**

Weekend of 6/22-23/24

**Exciting things are happening!** Classrooms going in, lobby update July 7- SIGN UP, some news coming up hopefully soon about our 4th campus- all of this so we can stay effective in reaching NW OH for Christ. **This is what Jesus commanded us to do.** He was obedient to God the Father to bring salvation to us, so we are being obedient to Him and bringing salvation to those in our lives who need Him. **As disciples we say Jesus has authority over our church, over our lives but the RLs of Jesus day didn’t see it that way.** They confronted Him in the temple courtyard and demanded, **Who gave You authority to do these things? They weren’t happy with how He was disrupting their lives.** Turn to Luke 20, pg. 1049, as you do let’s catch up to Jesus on His walk from Jericho to Jerusalem.

**WHAT’S BEEN HAPPENING**

1. **Jesus nears Jerusalem, Luke 19:28–40 2 miles from Jerusalem.**
2. Tells the disciples to find a young donkey for Him to ride.
3. Despite Jesus’ point that the physical kingdom was not now, as He rode to Jerusalem the people cheered “Blessed is the King…”, Psalm 118:26. **A cheer saying they believe He is the Messiah/bringing His kingdom**.
4. The RLs yell for Jesus to tell them to be quiet, after all the Roman authorities might see this as a Jewish revolt.
5. Jesus said if they don’t signal the Messiah, God will make sure someone does even if it’s the rocks.
6. **Jesus weeps over Jerusalem, Luke 19:41-44**
7. He’s saddened that the people don’t understand why He came.
8. He predicts the destruction of Temple/Jerusalem, which happened in 70/Roman General Titus, Jerusalem in 135.
9. **Jesus enters the temple, Luke 19:45–46**
10. He didn’t kick out the Roman soldiers, which He would have done if He was establishing His kingdom.
11. Instead kicks out those selling stuff for the sacrifices and exchanging money at inflated prices/rates. **Money-making scheme; they’re worse than tax collectors!** Stealing in the name of God.
12. Had to be a supernatural act, no one, including the temple guard would have let Him also the # of people/animals that had to be in the area- est. 260,000 lambs sacrificed during the week.
13. **Jesus teaches daily in the temple, Luke 19:47-48**
14. RLs were not happy about this, and Luke says they were “trying to destroy Him”.
15. They didn’t because the people who “were hanging on to every word He said”. **Literally “hanging on his lips.”** and they were afraid of the backlash- they needed the people/momey.

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**Who’s Your Authority?, Luke 20:1-20**

1. **RELIGIOUS LEADERS CONFRONT JESUS, Luke 20:1–8**

**Jesus doesn’t give them an answer on who gave Him authority but instead goes into a parable that will not only give them the answer but let them know He knows their plan for Him.** The interesting thing about this parable is that it’s describing what’s happening right then between the RLs/Jesus. **See if you can figure out who is who in the parable and what Jesus’ point is.**

1. **JESUS ANSWERS THE RELIGIOUS LEADERS, Luke 20:9-20**
2. **Parts of the Parable**
3. Vineyard Owner- God
4. Like everything in this world, including you/me, Israel is God’s creation.
5. Israel is described in the OT as a vineyard planted by God, Isaiah 5:1-7; Jeremiah 2:21 Ezekiel 19:10-14.
6. As Owner, only God has authority over Israel and how His plan for salvation will go.

1. **Who’s the beloved son?** Beloved son- Jesus
2. Answers the RLs’ question on authority- He’s doing what He’s doing by God’s authority, He was sent by God
3. Jesus is telling them that He knows they really do know He’s from God.
4. He’s also letting them know that He knows they will kill Him!
5. **What about the slaves?** Slaves -the prophets God sent to Israel throughout her history
6. Men like Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Haggai, Micah, Malachi, etc.
7. Sent to straighten out the RLs/nation when they disobeyed.
8. The number God sent shows His incredible patience with the sinful RLs and nation.
9. **Vine-growers?**- the religious leaders up to Jesus’ day.
10. Responsible for fruit production- care for/grow Israel’s worship of God/obedience/drawing nations to God.
11. Instead, they persecuted/killed the prophets God sent to them- Isaiah, sawn in two, Jeremiah, thrown in a well, later stoned to death.
12. The VGers recognized the son- Jesus is saying the RLs recognized Jesus was God’s Son but will choose to kill Him anyways thinking they’ll keep their power.
13. Threw the son out of vineyard/killed him- Jesus was taken outside Jerusalem and put on a cross to die.
14. Owners response
15. Destroy the VGers- not eternal judgment, that will come later, but predicting the destruction of the temple that happened less than 30 years later- 70 AD. **Since that day Israel has never had a temple, priest, Pharisees.**
16. Give the vineyard to others- not heteros (different kind) but allos (same kind), the 12 Jewish disciples/apostles/Paul who start the church..
17. Today the church is the vineyard God owns/He wants to grow.
18. **Point of the Parable**
19. Jesus is the chief cornerstone.
20. The perfectly true “stone” upon which God’s spiritual building/His kingdom/His church is built.
21. Receiving Jesus, believing He’s God and died to bring salvation from your sin, makes you part of God’s spiritual building/kingdom/His church and our lives are to line up with Jesus.
22. OT builders/RLs rejected Jesus/wanted to build their own religion/be responsible for themselves.
23. Most people today do the same- reject Jesus, build their own belief system/responsible for self.
24. Fall on stone, or stone falls on a person.
25. Those who reject Jesus on earth, Jesus will reject **FOR** heaven. **He said something similar back in** Luke 12:8–9
26. To NOT make a choice, or it’s not necessary or say “One can’t know” is to reject Jesus.
27. Jesus is the only way for God to remove His judgment.
28. **TAKEAWAYS- Jesus Is God and Does Have Authority Over Your Life**
29. **Unbeliever- Let Jesus be the authority in your life.**
30. YES, He’ll mess up your life, but do it by bringing order- **like He did in the Temple to restore its purpose** He’llrestore your relationship with God, God will forgive your sin, adopt you into His family, give you the wisdom/power to get your life back to its original purpose-worship, and take you to heaven when you die.
31. YES He’ll expect you to change how you live, get you lined up with Him as the cornerstone, but He’ll be personally involved with your change.
32. Have that conversation with God right now- you believe Jesus is God, took God’s judgment for you and based on that you ask for His forgiveness.
33. **Believer- Do the work Jesus has called you to do.**
34. Today the church is God’s vineyard/GP is just one section.
35. HE WANTS PRODUCTION/FRUIT.
36. The empty chairs are to be filled with people.
37. Israel’s RLs had their own ideas for God’s vineyard- Israel.
38. They talked about God, but their lives showed they didn’t know God.
39. We’ve got people who profess to be believers/disciples, they talk about God when convenient, but their choices/where they focus their attention/energy shows they’re like the RLs.
40. Be sure what you’re doing, how you’re doing it is what God wants you doing; get with God/His Word and find out what He says.
41. Get working to care for and increase the health and production of God’s vineyard/church.
42. Serve God’s vineyard/church.
43. Share/show the gospel to those in your who need Jesus.

**PODCAST- Who’s Your Authority,** Luke 20:1-20, 12:8–9