

**Issues of Authority**  
**Mark 11:27-12:27 (page 704)**

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**Jesus' Authority is Questioned (11:27-33)**

- *Their question:* Implied that they were the authority over Israel. (v 27-28)
- *His question:* Implied Jesus and John received their authority from the same source – God. (vs 29-30)
- *Their dilemma:* Their conclusion about John revealed their conclusion about Jesus. (vs 31-33)

**Their Rejection of Jesus' Authority Illustrated (12:1-12; Isa 5:1-7)**

- Man = God. (v 1, etc.)
- Vineyard = Israel. (v 1)
- Farmers = Israel's leaders. (v 1)
- Servants = prophets of Israel. (vs 2-5)
- Son = Jesus. (v 6-7)
- Others = Gentiles. (v 9; cf Rom 11:25-32)
- Jesus is the stone that was rejected by the builders but who has now become the cornerstone of God's new building, the Church. (vs 10-11)

**Which Authority - God or man? (12:13-17)**

- Caesar has some authority over those who use his image and God has ultimate authority over those who bear His image.
- Christianity does not advocate disloyalty to the state (Rom 13:1-7; 1Tim 2:1-6; 2 Pet 2:13-17), yet neither does duty to government eliminate one's higher duty to God. (Acts 4:18-20)

**The Authority of God's Word and His Power (12:18-27)**

- The Sadducees *did not believe* the Scripture referenced resurrection. (v 18)
- They failed to:
  - 1) submit to God's Scriptural revelation. (Ex 3:6; Dan 12:1-4)
  - 2) realize God's power to raise men to a different type of life.