

May 31, 2020

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Luke 20

1And it came to pass, *that* on one of those days, as he taught the people in the temple, and preached the gospel, the chief priests and the scribes came upon *him* with the elders,

Q. What exactly was Jesus ministry?

John the Baptist asked that very question in a different way. John the Baptist wanted to know if Jesus was the One? How did Jesus respond to this question; He described His ministry to that point;

*Luke 7:19*And John calling unto him two of his disciples sent them to Jesus, saying, *Art thou he that should come? or look we for another?* **20**When the men were come unto him, they said, John Baptist hath sent us unto thee, saying, *Art thou he that should come? or look we for another?* **21**And in that same hour he cured many of their infirmities and plagues, and of evil spirits; and unto many that were blind he gave sight. **22**Then Jesus answering said unto them, *Go your way, and tell John what things ye have seen and heard; how that the blind see, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, to the poor the gospel is preached.* **23**And blessed is he, whosoever shall not be offended in me.

2And spake unto him, saying, Tell us, by what authority doest thou these things? or who is he that gave thee this authority?

Asking someone in authority as to where their authority comes from is not necessarily a bad thing to do.

3And he answered and said unto them, I will also ask you one thing; and answer me:

But be prepared to answer some questions of your own.

4The baptism of John, was it from heaven, or of men?

The religious leaders wanted to know where Jesus authority comes from so, in turn He asked them; where did the authority of John the Baptist come from. He knew the challenge this question would be to them as the people loved John the Baptist and many including some of their own had heard John preach and saw many baptized. His response to the religious leaders was harsh;

Matthew 3: 7But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees come to his baptism, he said unto them, O generation of vipers, who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come? 8Bring forth therefore fruits meet for repentance: 9And think not to say within yourselves, We have Abraham to our father: for I say unto you, that God is able of these stones to raise up children unto Abraham. 10And now also the axe is laid unto the root of the trees: therefore every tree which bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire.

11I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am

*not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire: **12**Whose fan is in his hand, and he will thoroughly purge his floor, and gather his wheat into the garner; but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.*

They indeed had a challenge in how to answer this question; I think they knew the answer in their hearts, they knew in their hearts that this was the Messiah, but God had drawn a curtain over their eyes that they would not see due to their arrogance and evil behavior toward His people.

5And they reasoned with themselves, saying, If we shall say, From heaven; he will say, Why then believed ye him not? **6**But and if we say, Of men; all the people will stone us: for they be persuaded that John was a prophet. **7**And they answered, that they could not tell whence *it was*.

Not to answer was an option that they chose, in so doing they allowed Jesus not to answer their question as well. Again, their well thought out “deep state” plan had failed.

8And Jesus said unto them, Neither tell I you by what authority I do these things.

The Parable of the Wicked Tenants

[\(Matthew 21:33-46; Mark 12:1-12\)](#)

Perhaps the worst thing that can happen to an arrogant person is to be ignored and that is what Jesus did to the Pharisees and Sadducees that had come to question Him.

Turning to the people; it is a well-played maneuver on Jesus part, one He fully understood and would exercise to His advantage. Arrogance and narcissism demand attention in the flesh, the antidote is disregarding them.

This parable is similar to a previous one as to who the people represent in the parable. "A certain man" represents God. The husbandmen represent the Israeli nation from the time of Abraham. The servant that was sent to the Husbandman were the prophets. The owner of the vineyard then sent His Son who was Jesus.

9Then began he to speak to the people this parable; A certain man planted a vineyard, and let it forth to husbandmen, and went into a far country for a long time. 10And at the season he sent a servant to the husbandmen, that they should give him of the fruit of the vineyard: but the husbandmen beat him, and sent *him* away empty. 11And again he sent another servant: and they beat him also, and entreated *him* shamefully, and sent *him* away empty. 12And again he sent a third:

and they wounded him also, and cast *him* out. **13** Then said the lord of the vineyard, What shall I do? **I will send my beloved son**: it may be they will reverence *him* when they see him. **14** But when the husbandmen saw him, they reasoned among themselves, saying, This is the heir: come, **let us kill him**, that the inheritance may be ours. **15** So they cast him out of the vineyard, and killed *him*. What therefore shall the lord of the vineyard do unto them?

The religious leaders and the people of Israel had no idea how close they were to destruction as they listened to this parable. They were beholding the face of God as Jesus spoke and yet they did not fully understand.

16 He shall come and destroy these husbandmen, and shall give the vineyard to others. And when they heard *it*, they said, God forbid.

The people could understand the parable as a real-life event but they could not place it within the idea of a spiritual battle that they were a part of at that very moment. They would soon assume the role of the “husbandmen and his servants”. Their forefathers had beaten the prophets sent to them by God and had failed to give to God what was God’s. They now looked upon the Son who had come as the final representative of God the owner of the vineyard and they would seek to “KILL HIM”.

Even though a parable, Jesus was describing what had and was going to occur with Israel and their Messiah.

17And he beheld them, and said, What is this then that is written, The stone which the builders rejected, the same is become the head of the corner?

Major construction at this time required a precise setting of the first stone called the corner stone. All dimensions and continued building would be based on this corner stone. Stone masons were valuable not only in setting the corner stone but in selecting and cutting the stone to begin with. If any flaw was found in the stone, the chief builder would reject the stone and cut another one. What Jesus said was that in this case the builder was Israel and more specifically the Chief Rabbi of the Pharisees. He was going to reject the stone that was indeed Jesus Christ their Messiah; and that very stone that the religious leaders would reject would become the chief corner stone in the building of the Church that Jesus would build.

We have talked about this Church at length, it has only one other name other than the Church that Jesus Built, it is the Bride of Christ. In fact, it is not a religion at all even if you consider all the religions of today, it is in fact a relationship, its only membership requirement is found in belief.

John 3:16 [16](#)For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

Based on this verse, once you have decided to “believe” your salvation is established; then there are steps to be taken; mainly the essence is found in John 14.

John 14:15 If ye love me, keep my commandments.

Jesus expands upon the idea that He is the Corner Stone that was rejected. This Corner Stone is so critical to the construction of what was to come that it was indestructible. Indestructible in the sense that anything that tried to damage, injure or reject this stone itself will be ground to a powder by its spiritual Truth and Spiritual importance.

[18](#)Whosoever shall fall upon that stone shall be broken; but on whomsoever it shall fall, it will grind him to powder.

If we fall to our knees and worship this Corner Stone, Jesus Christ, we ourselves become broken and are mended together with all others who fall upon this stone for Salvation. That mended or grafted together group then becomes the Bride of Christ the Church. Not man-made churches but the true and singular Church that Jesus built.

You can be a Methodist and Catholic and Mormon and Buddhist and Hindu and Muslim all your life following all of the man-made rules like the Pharisees did, but it won't save you; you are just as lost as those who reject the Truth. Only the Blood of Christ can save you, only walking in His Commandments; not speaking specifically of the 10 Commandments of the Old Testament they speak the Truth; but we are to seek out the Commandments that Jesus gave and walk in obedience to those and then will you show Him you love Him.

However, if this stone were to fall on any who reject the stone they will be ground to a fine powder.

Paying Taxes to Caesar

(Matthew 22:15-22; Mark 12:13-17)

19And the chief priests and the scribes the same hour sought to lay hands on him; and they feared the people: for they perceived that he had spoken this parable against them.

The scholars of the Law would know all of the prophecies about the coming of the Messiah. They can't seem to see the fulfillment of the Law in Jesus, but they can see and fear the people because of a simple parable that was directed at them.

20And they watched *him*, and sent forth spies, which should feign themselves just men, that they might take

hold of his words, that so they might deliver him unto the power and authority of the governor.

This would be considered in Jesus' time as what we know today as "the deep state". A group of people who found themselves through divisive efforts in positions of power. People who put their power survival above all else; Truth does not matter if it does not support their own personal beliefs and augments their personal power. This deep state is managed then as it is now, by a single entity; Lucifer, the Devil, Satan; with many willing followers who seek power in the flesh.

Satan found the need for power when He was the Music Leader of God's Kingdom. He wanted more power and seemed to be out of sorts when his obvious position was questioned in Heaven. He rebelled and, in that rebellion, set a course of massive destruction for millions of people over the lifetime of this world. These men of the Pharisees are no different than the evil doers of today, they put their power and desire for power above that of the Master.

21And they asked him, saying, Master, we know that thou sayest and teachest rightly, neither acceptest thou the person of *any*, but teachest the way of God truly:

A lawyer's trick of making a preamble to a question sound like they hold you and your opinion on high esteem. When in fact these people despised this man Jesus and the venom drooled

from their lips as they disguised their hatred with fine words in order to lay a Spiritual Trap for Him. That is funny, man laying a Spiritual Trap for the Son of God the Creator all things, the essence of Spiritual Truth.

**22Is it lawful for us to give tribute unto Caesar, or no?
23But he perceived their craftiness, and said unto them,
Why tempt ye me? 24Shew me a penny. Whose image
and superscription hath it? They answered and said,
Caesar's.**

This word “craftiness” from Strong’s Concordance Word Help is actually made up of two words;

Pas meaning “every” and ergon meaning “deed”.

3834 *panourgía* (from [3956](#) /pás, "every" and [2041](#) /érgon, "deed") – properly, every (evil) work; (figuratively) crafty behavior; unscrupulous cunning that stops at nothing to achieve a selfish goal.

25And he said unto them, Render therefore unto Caesar the things which be Caesar's, and unto God the things which be God's.

There well-crafted words were brought to naught by with a simple statement; Render unto Caesar the things which be Caesar’s, and unto God the things which be God’s”.

26And they could not take hold of his words before the people: and they marvelled at his answer, and held their peace.

Meaning they had no response; it was useless trying to outsmart Jesus they were finding out. The only thing left for them to do was to marvel at His words and at their own stupidity.

But don't worry, Stupid is as stupid does and they had not finished digging in the hole of stupidity yet.

These next questions are of a theological debate between the two leading religious sects within the Jewish religion. The Pharisees and the Sadducees; The Pharisees believed in life after death and Sadducees did not; they believed when you died you went into oblivion.

Sadducees Question the Resurrection

[\(Matthew 22:23-33; Mark 12:18-27\)](#)

27Then came to *him* certain of the Sadducees, which deny that there is any resurrection; and they asked him, 28Saying, Master, Moses wrote unto us, If any man's brother die, having a wife, and he die without children, that his brother should take his wife, and raise up seed unto his brother. 29There were therefore seven brethren: and the first took a wife, and died without children. 30And the second took her to wife, and he died childless. 31And the third took her; and in like manner the seven also: and they left no children, and died. 32Last of all the woman died also. 33Therefore in the resurrection whose wife of them is she? for seven had her to wife.

In the wisdom of these religious leaders they thought the best way to trap Him was to invite Him into their beliefs rather than asking the important question of are we right in this belief?

34And Jesus answering said unto them, The children of this world marry, and are given in marriage: 35But they which shall be accounted worthy to obtain that world, and the resurrection from the dead, neither marry, nor are given in marriage:

Jesus answers the question they should have asked first and that is “are we right in believing there is no resurrection? Marriage was a secondary issue, but they used it as the focus of their argument, thinking the law would surely stop Jesus in His tracks.

If that defeat was not bad enough Jesus continued as someone who has personal knowledge of the arrangements in heave even speaking to the order of things in Heaven.

36Neither can they die any more: for they are equal unto the angels; and are the children of God, being the children of the resurrection.

37Now that the dead are raised, even Moses shewed at the bush, when he calleth the Lord the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.

The Sadducees argument was that none were resurrected, and they excluded all the books of the Prophets and relied solely on

the Books of Moses the Law. But even in those books Jesus points out that God refers to the Moses predecessors Abraham, Issacs and Jacob, all who were long gone but who were none the less referred to by God as living. As God states below, He is the God of the living!

38For he is not a God of the dead, but of the living: for all live unto him. 39Then certain of the scribes answering said, Master, thou hast well said. 40And after that they durst not ask him any *question at all*.

Perhaps a glimmer of light for these religious men? Only a few would begin to understand.

Perhaps the largest looming question that would come up during Jesus trial begins here. It was critical that Jesus establish this while He could; His own Divinity. Divinity means the direct connection to and being fully God with all the attributes associated with the One God and the God Head, the Triune God. In other words, was Jesus God? That would be the basis of His crucifixion.

Matthew perhaps gives a clearer picture of the question that Jesus was asking the Pharisees. He asks them about what they think of the Messiah and is rendered here in the English as “Christ” from the word “Christos” meaning Messiah.

From Strong's Concordance;

Transliteration: Christos

Phonetic Spelling: (khris-tos')

Definition: the Anointed One, Messiah, Christ

Usage: Anointed One; the Messiah, the Christ.

Matthew 22:[41](#)While the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them, [42](#)Saying, What think ye of Christ? whose son is he? They say unto him, The Son of David. [43](#)He saith unto them, How then doth David in spirit call him Lord, saying,

[44](#)The LORD said unto my Lord, Sit thou on my right hand, till I make thine enemies thy footstool?

[45](#)If David then call him Lord, how is he his son? [46](#)And no man was able to answer him a word, neither durst any man from that day forth ask him any more questions.

Back to Luke;

[41](#)And he said unto them, How say they that Christ is David's son?

[42](#)And David himself saith in the book of Psalms, The LORD said unto my Lord, Sit thou on my right hand,

[43](#)Till I make thine enemies thy footstool. [44](#)David therefore calleth him Lord, how is he then his son?

This was an in answerable question and Jesus knew it. There were only four entities that could fully answer this question, David, the Holy Spirit, Jesus and God. When David spoke these words Jesus was there, He was the Lord that was to sit at the right hand

of God. Jesus knew this firsthand, and He knew it would stymie the Pharisees.

Jesus put the question out there, it hung in the air like smoke and there came no answer. So, Jesus pivots to a full-frontal assault on the integrity of these religious leaders.

45Then in the audience of all the people he said unto his disciples, 46Beware of the scribes, which desire to walk in long robes, and love greetings in the markets, and the highest seats in the synagogues, and the chief rooms at feasts; 47Which devour widows' houses, and for a shew make long prayers: the same shall receive greater damnation.

Jesus was not there to make friends of the religious elites; I believe the same could be said of today. Jesus is the Way the Truth and the Life, anyone that comes to the Father comes through Jesus Himself. There are many religions that teach all types of manner in which to come to salvation; membership, attendance, rosaries, giving, special clothing, not celebrating this or celebrating that all man-made ideas that they think somehow pleases God just like the Pharisees and Sadducees did. How many people have gone to their doom following men with their fantastic ideas and ideals of how to be saved? The Truth is in God's Word and it is simple that one must be as a child in their belief in order to grasp what is needed.

Go to Church by all means, but beware, just as Jesus warned the people about those who wear long robes etc. Know your Bible, study your Bible and walk in obedience to the Commandments of Jesus Christ; all this do, but only after you have fallen to your knees and confessed to Jesus that you are sinner and that your only hope is in Jesus and the Blood He shed for you on the Cross and you will be saved.

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