

Theme: CHRIST' S AUTHORITY CHALLENGED

Memory Verse: *Mark 12:13 "And they send unto him certain of the Pharisees and of the Herodians, to catch him in his words."*

Texts: Mathew 21:23-27; Mark 11:27-33; Luke 20:1-8

The chief priests and the elders of the people constituted the recognized "religious" authority at the time of the earthly ministry of Jesus Christ. These religious leaders, witnessing and hearing of the demonstration of rare, genuine, spiritual, awe-inspiring divine authority by Jesus both inside and outside the synagogue, felt dwarfed and inferior. The Pharisees challenged the source and authenticity of the authority of Jesus. They were not particularly interested in finding out the source of Jesus authority so as to believe in Him but to catch him in his words. But Jesus knew all men (John 2:24-25). He knew the intents of their hearts. He asked them another question to point to them the foolishness of their craftiness and fault-finding spirit. What wisdom! (John 5:13).

There are many today who do not recognize Jesus as their Redeemer and Saviour. Many ask questions to ridicule and belittle the Christian faith. The Pharisees and other religious leaders were always on the synagogue to hear Jesus but they had a very critical attitude to everything Jesus said and did. He could not be a blessing to them. What a pity! A critical heart can close the door of mercy against us. The religious leaders would not answer the question of Jesus. They said, "We cannot tell". They lied, they knew but refused to tell, they preferred to lie.

The Pharisees, Sadducees, scribes and other religious leaders spent a lot of time trying to ridicule the work of the Lord and to ensnare Him. Jesus always exposed their hypocrisy by the way He handled them, at the end, no man was able to answer Him a word neither did anyone dare to ask Him any question (Mathew 22:46). No power on this earth can challenge the authority of Our Lord Jesus Christ, if the early challengers could not. Glory be to the Lord!!!

DAILY BIBLE READING		
	MORNING	EVENING.
MON.	Deut. 3	1Thes.3
TUS.	Deut. 4	1Thes. 4
WED.	Deut. 5	1Thes. 5.
THUR.	Deut. 6	2Thes 1
FRI.	Deut. 7	2Thes. 2
SAT.	Deut.. 8	2Thes. 3
SUN.	Deut. 9	1Tim. 1