

# BY WHAT AUTHORITY?

*One day, as Jesus was teaching the people in the temple and preaching the gospel, the chief priests and the scribes with the elders came up 2 and said to him, "Tell us by what authority you do these things, or who it is that gave you this authority." 3 He answered them, "I also will ask you a question. Now tell me, 4 was the baptism of John from heaven or from man?" 5 And they discussed it with one another, saying, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say, 'Why did you not believe him?' 6 But if we say, 'From man,' all the people will stone us to death, for they are convinced that John was a prophet." 7 So they answered that they did not know where it came from. 8 And Jesus said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I do these things."*  
Luke 20:1-8 ESV

RELIGIOUS LEADERS APPROACHED JESUS \_\_\_\_\_

Authority was given to them by...

JESUS DISPLAYED \_\_\_\_\_

Luke 19:45-46

Luke 20:1

Performing of Miracles (healing, casting out demons, feeding the masses)

JESUS ANSWERS THEIR QUESTION \_\_\_\_\_

John's authority was from heaven, so was Jesus' authority.

If they could not see John's authority as a prophet from God, how would they see Jesus as the Messiah?

RELIGIOUS LEADERS CONSULT \_\_\_\_\_

They go into a holy huddle.

They decide their answer must preserve self, not be truth.

Preservation of -

Their worldly wisdom paralyzes them into an "I don't know" answer.

JESUS POINTED THEM \_\_\_\_\_

4 *As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet,*

*“The voice of one crying in the wilderness:*

*‘Prepare the way of the Lord,[a]  
make his paths straight.*

5 *Every valley shall be filled,  
and every mountain and hill shall be made low,  
and the crooked shall become straight,  
and the rough places shall become level ways,*

6 *and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.”* Luke 3:4 (Isaiah 40:3-5)

17 *And the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written,*

18 *“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,  
because he has anointed me  
to proclaim good news to the poor.*

*He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives  
and recovering of sight to the blind,  
to set at liberty those who are oppressed,*

19 *to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.”*

20 *And he rolled up the scroll and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him.* Luke 4:18-19 (Isaiah 61:1,2)

22 *and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form, like a dove; and a voice came from heaven, “You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.”* Luke 3:22

WE MUST RELY ON \_\_\_\_\_ AS OUR AUTHORITY.

*“Tell us by what authority you do these things...”*