



Northside Proclaimer

Proclaiming The Word Of The Lord

1 Thessalonians 1:8

Northside Church Of Christ Welcomes You!

June 14, 2015

“Even Jesus Did Not Presume to Act Without Authority from God”

Bob Myhan

Many seem to think Christians may act without authority from God.

The rulers among the Jews understood that one may not act without authority.

And when he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came up to him as he was teaching, and said, “By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?” Jesus answered them, “I also will ask you one question, and if you tell me the answer, then I also will tell you by what authority I do these things. The baptism of John, from where did it come? From heaven or from man?” And they discussed it among themselves, saying, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say to us, ‘Why then did you not believe him?’ But if we say, ‘From man,’ we are afraid of the crowd, for they all hold that John was a prophet.” So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And he said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I do these things.” (Matt. 21:23-27)

Inasmuch as He was “born of woman, born under the law” (Gal. 4:4), not even Jesus was exempt from the necessity of having authority for what He did. Though He rightly refused to explain the source of His authority in the above incident, Jesus used three methods to establish authority for His teaching and practice.

He taught what His Father had commanded Him to teach.

“The one who rejects me and does not receive my words has a judge; the word that I have spoken will judge him on the last day. For I have not spoken on my own authority, but the Father who sent me has himself given me a commandment—what to say and what to speak. And I know that his commandment is eternal life. What I say, therefore, I say as the Father has told me.” (John 12:48-50)

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Announcements

- Remember the shut in's.
- Pray for the church and one another.
- Men's Bible today @ 3:30 PM (Church History: A Study Of Denominationalism)
- Remember the spiritual sick among us
- Call or email me to add announcements, thanks.
- Remember Sister Phyllis Owen. She is Bennington, VT, tending to the affairs of her grandson's death.

Chronological Bible Reading Plan

Jun 14 2 Chr 6-7, Ps 136
Jun 15 Ps 134, 146-150
Jun 16 1 Kgs 9, 2 Chr 8
Jun 17 Prov 25-26
Jun 18 Prov 27-29
Jun 19 Eccl 1-6
Jun 20 Eccl 7-12

He did what He had seen His Father do.

But Jesus answered them, "My Father is working until now, and I am working." This was why the Jews were seeking all the more to kill him, because not only was he breaking the Sabbath, but he was even calling God his own Father, making himself equal with God. So Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of his own accord, but only what he sees the Father doing. For whatever the Father does, that the Son does likewise." (John 5:17-19)

He taught what was implied, though not explicitly stated, in the Law.

When questioned by the Sadducees (who believed in neither spirits nor angels—Acts 23:8) about the general resurrection, Jesus quoted from the first five books of the Old Testament [the only part of the Old Testament that the Sadducees accepted as divinely inspired] to defend His teaching.

The same day Sadducees came to him, who say that there is no resurrection, and they asked him a question, saying, "Teacher, Moses said, 'If a man dies having no children, his brother must marry the widow and raise up offspring for his brother.' Now there were seven brothers among us. The first married and died, and having no offspring left his wife to his brother. So too the second and third, down to the seventh. After them all, the woman died. In the resurrection, therefore, of the seven, whose wife will she be? For they all had her." But Jesus answered them, "You are wrong, because you know neither the Scriptures nor the power of God. For in the resurrection they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are like angels in heaven. And as for the resurrection of the dead, have you not read what was said to you by God: 'I am the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob'? He is not God of the dead, but of the living." And when the crowd heard it, they were astonished at his teaching. (Matt. 22:23-33).

His implied defense ran thusly:

1. Abraham, Isaac and Jacob had been dead for hundreds of years when God first appeared to Moses.
2. But God identified Himself to Moses saying, "I am the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob."
3. In saying this, He implied (and we necessarily infer) that Abraham, Isaac and Jacob were alive—in some sense—at the time of Moses.
4. To deny this is to implicitly affirm that He is "the God of the dead."

This proved that there is a part of man that survives physical death and can be resurrected. If this is not the case, why did Jesus bring it up? This was such a forceful argument, that it "silenced the Sadducees" (v. 34).

If the very Son of God did not presume to act without authority, who are we to do so?