

LESSON 9

BRINGING YOURSELF UNDER AUTHORITY

MARK 11:1–33



1 What items do you have with you that signify your authority or your submission to an authority?



Read Mark 11:1–33 and the following notes:

☐ 11:1, 2 ☐ 11:9, 10 ☐ 11:15–17 ☐ 11:22, 23 ☐ 11:27ff

2 What authority did the people ascribe to Jesus by their actions (11:8–10)?

3 How could Jesus clear the Temple when he held no man-made position of authority over the merchants (11:15–17)?

4 What authority do we have when we pray (11:20–25)?

5 By what authority did the religious leaders challenge Jesus’ authority (11:27–33)?

As Jesus rode into Jerusalem, the people praised him but did not place themselves under his authority. In the Temple the religious leaders not only refused to submit but also questioned his authority. Many people today pay homage to Jesus without submitting to his authority. They applaud him loudly but do not do what he says; they have a religion without substance and a worship without service. Responding to Christ’s authority means not only proclaiming his lordship but also obeying his commands.



6 If Jesus were to “clean house” at your church, what kinds of changes do you think he would make?

7 How can some people loudly defend the inerrancy of the Bible but have little or no concern for its authority in their lives?



8 Where might Jesus want to “clean house” in your life?

9 List specific decisions, actions, or areas in your life where you give full, limited, or no authority to God.

Full Authority	Limited Authority	No Authority

10 What keeps you from submitting more completely to the lordship of Christ?



11 As an experiment, take one of the areas you listed under “Limited Authority” or “No Authority” and pray for the willingness and courage to allow God to rule over this area of your life. Which area is the most important for you to work on at this time?

A Why did the people hail Jesus as their king (11:1–11)? What did they expect him to do?

B What place is there for anger in the life of a Christian (11:12–17)? What makes you angry?

C What do you pray about? List recent answers to your prayers. Why doesn't God say yes to all our prayer requests?

D Jesus threatened the authority of the religious leaders (11:18, 27, 28). Whose authority is threatened by Jesus today?

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