

Matt 21:25-32 Week 68

The Counter Question and the Changed Heart

Matt 21:25 The baptism of John--from where was it? From heaven or from men? And they reasoned and argued with one another, If we say, From heaven, He will ask us, Why then did you not believe him? 26 But if we say, From men--we are afraid of and must reckon with the multitude, for they all regard John as a prophet. 27 So they answered Jesus, We do not know. And He said to them, Neither will I tell you by what power of authority I do these things. 28 What do you think? There was a man who had two sons. He came to the first and said, Son, go and work today in the vineyard. 29 And he answered, I will not; but afterward he changed his mind and went. 30 Then the man came to the second and said the same [thing]. And he replied, I will [go], sir; but he did not go. 31 Which of the two did the will of the father? They replied, The first one. Jesus said to them, Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the harlots will get into the kingdom of heaven before you. 32 For John came to you walking in the way of an upright man in right standing with God, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the harlots did believe him; and you, even when you saw that, did not afterward change your minds and believe him [adhere to, trust in, and rely on what he told you]. AMP

Why did the Lord not just reveal where His authority comes from?

- Because truth is worthless if not _____.
- God only gives more light when you _____ to the last light He gave you.

The Parable

- The first thing we must settle in all of Jesus' teachings was that He _____ the members of the Sanhedrin.
- The parable of the fig tree represents the nation of Israel in the _____.
- The vineyard (probably olive trees) represents Israel's opportunity to obey and turn to Christ in the _____.
- One brother had a form of godliness but no _____. The other said no, but in the end obeyed.
- The vineyard parable was about _____ and _____.
- First son: seemed to be rebellious but proved to be _____.
Second son: seemed to be _____ but proved to be _____.

What do we learn from this first parable?

1. Good _____ do not equal real obedience.
2. When a person steadfastly refuses to hear God's truth and to receive His _____, God may choose to withdraw Himself.
3. Truth and following is not _____ to just the holy.
4. The follower of Christ must _____ of what's best for himself and do what is best for the kingdom of God.
5. Trusting, by _____, what the Father is asking you to do, is wise and prudent.

Back to the questioners...

- He informed them that, although their answer to His question was right, their response to Him and His ministry was _____ and _____.

What makes us want to truly obey the Father's wishes?

- We are _____
- We are _____
- Holiness is the _____ state of the Christian.
- We are _____

Rom 12:1 I APPEAL to you therefore, brethren, and beg of you in view of [all] the mercies of God, to make a decisive dedication of your bodies [presenting all your members and faculties] as a living sacrifice, holy (devoted, consecrated) and well pleasing to God, which is your reasonable (rational, intelligent) service and spiritual worship.

- We are representatives of His _____