



## Traps, Tenants, Taxes, and Truths

February 24 & 25, 2024

### THE AUTHORITY OF CHRIST QUESTIONED:

**TRAP:** What authority does Jesus have to enter Jerusalem as King to cleanse the Temple and teach as the High Priest?

*One day as Jesus was teaching the people and preaching the Good News in the Temple, the leading priests, the teachers of religious law, and the elders came up to him. They demanded, "By what authority are you doing all these things? Who gave you the right?" [Luke 20:1-2 NLT]*

#### 1. Turning-the-Table Truth: The religious leaders could not

\_\_\_\_\_ John the Baptists' authority so neither could they \_\_\_\_\_ the authority of Christ.

*"Let me ask you a question first," he replied. "Did John's authority to baptize come from heaven, or was it merely human?" They talked it over among themselves. "If we say it was from heaven, he will ask why we didn't believe John. But if we say it was merely human, the people will stone us because they are convinced John was a prophet." So they finally replied that they didn't know. And Jesus responded, "Then I won't tell you by what authority I do these things." [Luke 20:3-8 NLT]*

2. Tenant Truth: The cherished son (Jesus) is the rightful heir of the owner's (God's) vineyard (Israel/Church) and as the rightful heir, the cherished son (Jesus) has the \_\_\_\_\_ to judge and condemn the tenants (religious leaders) who have persecuted the servants (prophets).

a. Jesus is the cornerstone whose power and authority cannot be ignored. [Luke 20:9-18 NLT]

3. Tax Truth: Give to the government what \_\_\_\_\_ to the government and give to God what \_\_\_\_\_ to God.

a. Money bears the image of the government, and we bear the image of God. Give to the government what belongs to the government and give to God what belongs to God. [LUKE 20:19-26 NLT]

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