

The Divine Authority of Christ (Luke 11:14-23)

I. Jesus' Divine Authority is Rejected (14-16)

A. Jesus exercises authority over a mute demon (14)

1. The people marveled
2. The miracle was uncontested
3. There was no doubt that he had done the work

B. Jesus' Authority is Questioned (15-16)

1. The miracle was undeniable so the source of his power was questioned.
 - a. Some attributed his work to Beelzebul (Lord of the house)
 - b. Some desire a sign from heaven to prove his authority (16)
 - i. This is the opposite of faith
 - ii. It still continues today, instead of trusting we seek proof before we will accept

II. Jesus Answers the Question of Authority (17-18)

A. No Kingdom fighting itself can stand (17)

1. Why would Satan be warring against his own?
2. Why would He be casting out his own demons?
3. He would be destroying His own kingdom.

B. Satan does not fight against himself (18)

1. He is very good at being a devil
2. He desires to kill, steal and destroy
3. He does not seek the benefit of people

III. Jesus' Authority Brings Judgment (18b-20)

A. Judgment will come on those rejecting Christ (18b-19)

1. The Pharisees were hypocritically judging Christ
 - a. Their own sons were casting out demons also
 - b. How could the Pharisees condemn him for it
2. The Pharisees disciples would become their judges
 - a. If Jesus was working by the devil then so were the Pharisees
3. If Jesus is Messiah, working through God
 - a. Then He is truly from God
 - b. Then the Kingdom of God has come
 - c. Then the Pharisees were condemning God's own work

IV. Jesus' Authority is Unconquerable (21-22)

A. A strong man can protect his house (21)

1. Jesus was referring to Satan as the strong man protecting his kingdom
 - a. He rules his kingdom and protects his own
 - b. He watches over his own goods
 - c. He does not let others waltz in and take what they want

B. Only a stronger one can overcome Him (22)

1. Jesus was the stronger man who came to raid Satan's kingdom
 - a. He has taken away his armor
 - b. He has divided his spoil

V. Jesus' Authority Demands a Response (23)

A. Whoever is not with Christ is against him

1. There is no middle ground

a. you either accept Christ and his authority or you don't

b. you cannot straddle the fence

c. indifference is to choose the other side

B. Whoever does not gather with Christ scatters

1. Christ alone brings the children of God together

2. There are no other routes to God

3. everyone without Christ is cast away from the Father.