

The Authority of the Messiah

Luke 4:31–37

(NKJV) ³¹ Then He went down to Capernaum, a city of Galilee, and was teaching them on the Sabbaths. ³² And they were astonished at His teaching, for His word was with authority. ³³ Now in the synagogue there was a man who had a spirit of an unclean demon. And he cried out with a loud voice, ³⁴ saying, “Let us alone! What have we to do with You, Jesus of Nazareth? Did You come to destroy us? I know who You are—the Holy One of God!”

³⁵ But Jesus rebuked him, saying, “Be quiet, and come out of him!” And when the demon had thrown him in *their* midst, it came out of him and did not hurt him. ³⁶ Then they were all amazed and spoke among themselves, saying, “What a word this *is!* For with authority and power He commands the unclean spirits, and they come out.” ³⁷ And the report about Him went out into every place in the surrounding region.

Main Point: We must stand amazed at the powerful, authoritative Holy One of God.

Why should we stand amazed?

I. Jesus Possesses Power & Authority in His *Word*

- A. Jesus taught in the synagogue as a rabbi.

- B. Jesus spoke with an inherent authority.
 - 1. It was Jewish custom for rabbis to speak based on the authority of predecessors rather than being original in their teachings

 - 2. Jesus spoke with an authority that did not base itself in the teachings of other rabbis from the past; He spoke on His own authority

II. Jesus Possesses Power & Authority in His *Work*

- A. The demons recognize the identity of Jesus.

1. Plea: *Leave us alone*

2. Conflict: *What have we to do with each other?*

3. Proclamation: *I know who You are—the Holy One of God!*

B. Jesus removes the demons from the man.

1. Jesus issues two commands without an incantation or derived authority basis

a) Be quiet

b) Come out

2. The demons submit to the powerful Word

C. The people were astonished at this remarkable display of power and authority.