

# From Heaven or From Men?

**TEXT: Matt. 21:23-27**

## **INTRODUCTION:**

- A. JESUS TEACHING WAS SET APART ( **Matt. 7:29** ).
- B. CONTINUALLY CHALLENGED BY THE JEWS.
  - 1. Arose from jealousy.
  - 2. Attempt here to "**lord it over**" the Lord.
  - 3. His return of their question and their reaction.
- C. THIS QUESTION SHOULD BE APPLIED ELSEWHERE.
  - 1. The importance of **Scriptural Authority**( **Gal. 1:6-9; 2 John 9** ).
  - 2. It is vital we know of each practice "**From Heaven or Men?**"

## **I. THE AUTHORITY OF JESUS.**

- A. GOD SPEAKS THRU HIS SON( **Heb. 1:1-2** ).
  - > HOLY SPIRIT( **John 16:13** ).
  - > APOSTLES( **Eph. 3:5** ).
  - > PREACHING AND WRITING( **1 Cor. 2:12-13; Eph. 3:3-4** ).
- B. THE **NT** IS GOD'S MESSAGE FROM HEAVEN( **Luke 10:16; John 12:48** ).

## **II. LET'S APPLY - "FROM HEAVEN OR MEN?"**

- A. THE **CHURCH** TO WHICH YOU BELONG.
  - 1. One church( **Eph. 1:22-23; 5:23; 4:4; 2:16** ).
  - 2. Founded in Jerusalem, AD 33 by Jesus( **Matt. 16:18; Acts 2** ).
- B. THE RELIGIOUS **NAME** BY WHICH YOU ARE CALLED.
  - 1. One name( **Acts 11:26; 1 Pet.; 4:16; Acts 4:12** ).
  - 2. Denominational names sinful( **1 Cor. 10-15** ).
- C. THE **BAPTISM** TO WHICH YOU SUBMITTED.
  - 1. **Eph. 4:5. One** baptism.
  - 2. *baptizo*, "to immerse, to submerge, to dip." ( **Rom. 6:4; Acts 8:38** ).
  - 3. The **purpose**
    - a. **Acts 2:38; 22:16. Saves.**
    - b. **Matt. 28:19-20.** In his name - into a fellowship.
    - c. **1 Cor. 12:13.** Into **the church.**
- D. **INFANT BAPTISM.**
  - 1. Nowhere in the NT. First practiced 370 AD, not generally accepted till 416.
  - 2. Denies any connection between faith & obedience. Not all we have to do. ( **Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; Rom. 10:10** ).
  - 3. Are babies polluted by Adam's sin?( **Ez. 18:1-4; 2 Cor. 5:10** ).
- E. THE **WORSHIP**( **Matt. 15:7-9** ).

## **CONCLUSION:**

- A. THE BIBLE IS THE STANDARD.
- B. HAVE YOU OBEYED ITS MESSAGE?