

Mark 11:27-33

²⁷ Again they came to Jerusalem. As he was walking in the temple, the chief priests, the scribes, and the elders came to him ²⁸ and said, 'By what authority are you doing these things? Who gave you this authority to do them?' ²⁹ Jesus said to them, 'I will ask you one question; answer me, and I will tell you by what authority I do these things. ³⁰ Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin? Answer me.' ³¹ They argued with one another, 'If we say, "From heaven", he will say, "Why then did you not believe him?" ³² But shall we say, "Of human origin"?'—they were afraid of the crowd, for all regarded John as truly a prophet. ³³ So they answered Jesus, 'We do not know.' And Jesus said to them, 'Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.'

Mark 12:1-12

Then he began to speak to them in parables. 'A man planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a pit for the wine press, and built a watch-tower; then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. ² When the season came, he sent a slave to the tenants to collect from them his share of the produce of the vineyard. ³ But they seized him, and beat him, and sent him away empty-handed. ⁴ And again he sent another slave to them; this one they beat over the head and insulted. ⁵ Then he sent another, and that one they killed. And so it was with many others; some they beat, and others they killed. ⁶ He had still one other, a beloved son. Finally he sent him to them, saying, "They will respect my son." ⁷ But those tenants said to one another, "This is the heir; come, let us kill him, and the inheritance will be ours." ⁸ So they seized him, killed him, and threw him out of the vineyard. ⁹ What then will the owner of the vineyard do? He will come and destroy the tenants and give the vineyard to others. ¹⁰ Have you not read this scripture:

"The stone that the builders rejected

has become the cornerstone;^[a]

¹¹ this was the Lord's doing,

and it is amazing in our eyes"?'

¹² When they realized that he had told this parable against them, they wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowd. So they left him and went away.