

THE REALLY GOOD LIFE!

The Life of Christ Series

Gospel of Luke

Eviction & Foreclosure Notice

“Jesus’ Authority, Non-Negotiable”

(Luke 20:1-8)

Now it happened on one of those days, as He taught the people in the temple and preached the gospel, that the chief priests and the scribes, together with the elders, confronted Him² and spoke to Him, saying, “Tell us, by what authority are You doing these things? Or who is he who gave You this authority³ But He answered and said to them, “I also will ask you one thing, and answer Me: ⁴The baptism of John— was it from heaven or from men? ”⁵And they reasoned among themselves, saying, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ He will say, ‘Why then did you not believe him?’⁶ But if we say, ‘From men,’ all the people will stone us, for they are persuaded that John was a prophet.”⁷ So they answered that they did not know where it was from .⁸ And Jesus said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I do these things.”

The chief priests, scribes and elders were rulers of the temple and experts in the Jewish laws and traditions. They despised Jesus with a passion. The attacks on Jesus were carefully orchestrated by the Jewish leaders. They sought to destroy Him. Their attacks came in the form of a series of questions designed to entrap Jesus. Here they tried to outwit Jesus, which failed. Instead Jesus outwitted them, and they found themselves faced with the same dilemma.

- What was Jesus’ method of replying to them?
- What can you learn from His example?

“Defaulting on the Covenant”

(Luke 20:9-12)

⁹Then He began to tell the people this parable: “A certain man planted a vineyard, leased it to vinedressers, and went into a far country for a long time. ¹⁰Now at vintage-time he sent a servant to the vinedressers, that they might give him some of the fruit of the vineyard. But the vinedressers beat him and sent him away empty-handed. ¹¹Again he sent another servant; and they beat him also, treated him shamefully, and sent him away empty-handed. ¹²And again he sent a third; and they wounded him also and cast him out.

- How would you describe the owner? How would you describe the tenants?
- What can you say about the relationship between the owner and the tenants?
- What authority does the owner have? What rights do the tenant have?
- How is this parable a reflection of the Old Testament?

“Grace Extended but Not Accepted. Eviction Served!”

(Luke 20:13-19)

¹³ “Then the owner of the vineyard said, ‘What shall I do? I will send my beloved son. Probably they will respect him when they see him.’¹⁴ But when the vinedressers saw him, they reasoned among themselves, ‘This is the heir. Come, let us kill him, that the inheritance may be ours.’¹⁵ So they cast him out of the vineyard and killed him. Therefore, what will the owner of the vineyard do to them?¹⁶ He will come and destroy those vinedressers and give the vineyard to others. “And when they heard it they said, “Certainly not!¹⁷ Then He looked at them and said, “What then is this that is written: ‘The stone which the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone’?¹⁸ Whoever falls on that stone will be broken; but on whomever it falls, it will grind him to powder.”¹⁹ And the chief priests and the scribes that very hour sought to lay hands on Him, but they feared the people—for they knew He had spoken this parable against them.

Other references in the Bible which refers to Jesus as a *rock*, *stone*, or *chief cornerstone* in the Bible:

1 Corinthians 10:4 - He is the rock of provision that followed Israel in the desert

1 Peter 2:8 - He is the stone of stumbling.

Daniel 2:45 - He is the stone cut without hands that crushes the kingdoms of this world.

The owner is faced with a decision to make regarding these tenants. He has a decision and shared it with the religious leaders. However, the religious leaders reply with “Certainly not!”

- What was the motivation to kill the owner’s son?
- What would they think they would gain from killing him?
- The religious leaders replied with, “Certainly not!” Why did they respond this way?
- If you were the tenants how would you respond to the owner’s son?