

Silent Wednesday
The Conspiracy to Kill Jesus
Mark 11:27-33

We have created a culture of consumerism that has influenced the way we do religion. Religious consumers have a vast array of church supermarkets from which to choose; a ritual here, a prayer there, a cause in the next congregation, an entertaining preacher on the other side of town, and the Christian population grazes through the cafeteria offerings of weekly specials.

Jesus' authority is real even in our insubordination,
in our unbelief, and in our desire to scrutinize him.

1. Jesus' authority should move us to action.
2. Jesus' authority should move us to repentance.
3. Jesus authority should move us to believe.

The Bible challenges us to think differently. But thinking differently is only the first step. The authority of Jesus in us shouldn't end with us just thinking differently. Belief in Jesus and the authority that he has over our lives should ultimately result in living differently. Our ability to live the Christian life doesn't come from our will. It comes only from the grace of God, a grace that is often made real in the most difficult circumstances of life.

Reflection

Consider the different authorities in your life. How do you respond to each of them? Do you push back against authority or do you submit to it? Does it depend on your circumstances or your mood? What might your day look like if it was lived under the authority of Christ? Think about today. What would be the same? What would have to change? Take some time this week, to consider the price that was paid at the cross so that we could recognize and live under the authority of Christ, under the authority of a good God.