

Series: The Gospel of Luke

Sermon: Rising Up To The Challenge

Passage: Luke 20:1-47 (ESV)

Illustration:

Need: Jesus' disciples witnessed Him challenged from every side by His enemies, yet none were able to cancel Him.

I. Authority Challenge (20:1-19)

- The temple leaders wanted Jesus to admit he was never granted authority to minister as He had been.
- Jesus' counter question and parable demonstrated His authority had been undeniably granted by God.

II. Civil Law Challenge (20:19-26)

- The temple spies hoped to catch Jesus in a trap over the question of Roman taxation.
- He trapped them with His instruction to obey earthly laws while remaining fully committed to God.

III. Theology Challenge (20:27-40)

- The Sadducees wanted to discredit Him over the disbelieved doctrine of resurrection.
- Jesus proved from the Pentateuch (Ex. 3:6) that life beyond death was always God's plan.

IV. Response and Warning (20:41-47)

- Jesus identified Himself through King David's words that He is both Messiah & the Son of God (Ps 110:1).
- Jesus warned His disciples about any who claimed to teach God's truth but did not prove it by their lives.

V. Application:

1. Be ready for the challenges of Jesus' enemies before they come.
2. Never stand on your own authority. Stand only on Christ and His Word.
3. Don't be afraid of challengers but also don't be a jerk to them.
4. Be very aware of the temptations of religious nationalism.