

Series: The Gospel of Luke

Sermon: Authority and Power

**Passage: Luke 4:31-37 (ESV)**

Introduction: Set the Scene (Luke 4:31)

- I. Authority (Luke 4:32)
  - a. What is Authority?
    - i. The power to determine, adjudicate, or otherwise settle issues or disputes; jurisdiction; the right to control, command, or determine.
    - ii. a power or right delegated or given; authorization
    - iii. a person or body of persons in whom authority is vested, as a governmental agency
  - b. Experts in sociology would tell you there are three types of authority
    - i. Charismatic
    - ii. Traditional
    - iii. legal-rational
- II. Power (Luke 4:33-37)
  - a. What is Power?
    - i. Power refers to the ability to have one's will carried out despite the resistance of others.
    - ii. You can have power without authority, but you cannot truly have authority without power.
    - iii. You can have authority and power, but it may not extend past your center of influence.
  - III. Jesus demonstrates His Authority and Power
    - a. Jesus is not interested in what Satan has to say and neither should you.
    - b. Satan is a liar and the father of it. (John 8:44)
    - c. This demonstration of power over Satan and the demons reveals His ability to deliver sinners from their grasp. They are under His Authority.

### **Practical Application**

1. We are under authority in many parts of our lives.
2. It is important to have a healthy respect for authority.
3. To some you are the authority; to others you concede authority.
4. Christ has absolute authority...Divine authority
5. Along with authority, He has the power to back it up.