



# The Divine Authority of Jesus

Luke 4:31-37

- 1) Jesus came to set sinners free from their darkness
  - a) To teach w/ absolute, divine authority (4:32; cf. Mark 1:22)
  - b) Capernaum: *folks sitting in darkness saw a great Light* (Matt 4:13-16; cf. Isa. 9:1)
  - c) Jesus' message: *Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand* (Matt 4:17)
- 2) Satan & demons both oppress & possess living beings
  - a) They know their ultimate fate (Rev 20:1-3)
  - b) They appear as angels of light (2 Cor. 11:14-15)
  - c) They teach their own doctrines (1 Tim. 4:1ff.)
- 3) Jesus has authority over Satan & demons (4:33-35)
  - a) Jesus came to destroy Satan's works (1 John 3:8)
  - b) They know exactly who Jesus is (4:34; cf. Jas. 2:19)
  - c) They know their ultimate fate (cf. Rev. 20:1-3)
  - d) They submit to Jesus, doing no harm to His people (4:35)
- 4) Those who heard Jesus teach were *amazed* (4:31, 36-37)
- 5) Thoughts & observations
  - a) Are you amazed at Jesus' teaching? How about transformed?
  - b) We note *no formula* in the Bible for doing exorcisms
    - i) Pray for those oppressed by demons
    - ii) Preach the gospel to the lost
    - iii) Put on the full armor of God (Eph. 6:10ff.)
    - iv) Resist the devil, & he will flee (Jas. 4:7)
    - v) Beware of the devil... (1 Peter. 5:8)