**Offended by the Authority of Jesus**

**John 12:12-19, Pew Bible p. 899**

**April 6, 2025**

# **Misunderstanding Authority (V. 12-18)**

## We misunderstand Jesus’ authority when we have unrealistic expectations.

## We misunderstand Jesus’ authority when we have incomplete information.

## We misunderstand Jesus’ authority when we have shallow understanding.

# **Denying Authority (V. 19)**

## We can deny Jesus’ authority, but we cannot stop it.

## We can deny Jesus’ authority, but we cannot escape it.

**Discussion Questions**

1. Read John 12:12-19.

2. How could a crowd that was so excited about Jesus want Him to be crucified just five days later?

a. What does that tell you about the faith of the crowds in the triumphal entry?

3. Is it possible for people to like Jesus for the wrong reasons today?

a. What are some things about Jesus that people like for the wrong reasons?

4. What do misunderstandings about Jesus’ authority do to a person’s faith over time?

a. How can people go about fixing the things they misunderstand about Jesus?

5. Why were the Pharisees so offended by the authority that Jesus had over the people in this moment?

a. Are people today offended at the authority Jesus has? Why?

6. Have you ever misunderstood Jesus’ authority? Why?

a. How can you go about protecting your heart from denying or misunderstanding Jesus’ authority?

7. Pray for our church to believe and embrace the power of Christ, even as many in the world are offended by it. Come to the church prayer meeting this Wednesday from 6:00-6:30 pm in the Worship Center lobby.

 **Prayer Guide for Sunday, April 6**

***John 4:21-24 (ESV)***

*21 Jesus said to her, “Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father. 22 You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews 23 But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him. 24 God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.”*

**Wednesday Night Prayer Meeting:**

* PRAYING for both those preparing for baptism to follow through with their commitments and be blessed by their obedience to Christ.

**Pray for Our Church Family Needs:**

* PRAY for missions and missionaries:

Andy & Lindsay M. in Spain; Luke P. in Maricopa, Arizona; Nathan & Becky F. in Indonesia; Doug & Cheryl D. in Thailand; Jules S. in Thailand; and Sylvia M. and Andrew M. at ASU West, Glendale, Arizona.

* PRAY for all our students: elementary school, middle school, high school, and college. No matter whether they are in the classroom, an online setting, or a home school setting, our students are forming minds that need to focus on Christ.
* PRAY for family & friends of church members who need salvation or to renew their relationship with Jesus:

Sharon L. (children & grandchildren); Marge D. (son, Matthew); Rezwana D. (parents); Margaret J. (Tom & Bob); Gary & Betty B. (grandchildren & siblings); Sophia W. (husband); Charity M. (daughter); Kayla P. (nephew, Jordan); Michelle LaM. (son); and Debbie B. (son-in-law);

* PRAY for families who are grieving the recent loss of loved ones:

Del M. (wife), Bonnie V. (husband), Mel A. (wife), Kasuma A. (grandnephew), Gary C. (wife), Darlene R. (Husband), Woody (Barbara S.), Ashley S. (grandmother), Kate D. (mother)

* PRAY for those struggling with ongoing health and other issues:

Jeannie D. (surgery recovery), Ida S. (surgery recovery), Helene D. (justice), Johnny P. (health), Isua V. (health), Anne W. (health), Jacque B. (hospitalization)

* PRAY for others that you are aware of.