

By Whose Authority? (Mark 1:21-28)

Introduction: *Robert Ingersoll, the famous atheist...*

- I. MARK'S GOSPEL LESSON FOR TODAY SPEAKS ABOUT AUTHORITY
 - A. Jesus has authority to cast out demons & to create faith
 - B. Many today refuse to acknowledge Jesus' authority

- II. THERE ARE MANY AUTHORITIES UNDER WHOM WE LIVE
 - A. Often we obey them due to fear
 - B. Our obedience to Jesus' authority is an obedience of love
 - C. At all stages in our life, we find ourselves bowing to the 'authority' of those who would mislead our hearts, minds, & souls

- III. INTO OUR FALLEN, SINFUL CONDITION COMES JESUS WITH HIS LOVING AUTHORITY
 - A. In every page of Holy Scripture...
 - B. In Holy Baptism & Holy Communion...
 - C. In His precious face of agony as He is on the cross...
 - D. Oh - may we not be blinded to Jesus' authority, His authority of love

Conclusion: *The story of the Wright Brothers: when people missed a great event in history*