

6.3.A(45). Anointed Builder: Heavenly Authority of Mashiach or human authority to Build house: Mark 11:27-33.

As a Shepherd of God's Household, especially if you are called to minister to the House of Israel, this question "Who has the authority to build your House?" is foundational.

The underly question upon which this question of "authority to build" rests is the question of ownership. To whom does the House belong? No one will argue that the House of Israel was founded by the *avot*—Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. And, it is a house built upon the promises of God. For, even before Isaac, the *builder* of the house was born, God had promised Abraham, "your Seed" shall be like the "stars" of the heavens (Genesis 15:5). How, who is this "seed" whom the Lord God promises to multiply? On the one hand,

the sons of Israel might claim that it is indeed Isaac who is the seed to be multiplied as the “stars” of the heavens. In this case, the “owner” of House Israel is a human descendant of Abraham, perhaps Isaac or one of his descendants. In that case, House Israel is an entirely earthly house, no different in its flesh and its mortality than any other House of Earth.

But, God’s words of multiplying his seeds as the “stars” also implies a greater purpose than befits a *regional house*—for, “in your Seed all the nations of the earth will be blessed” (Genesis 22:18). In fact, there is a Seed, an heir promised to the entire human family—the chosen Seed Mashiach who would redeem the families of Earth by “crushing” the Serpent’s head (Genesis 3:15) and eventual being *raised up* by God (2 Samuel 7:12) to be both the Son of David and the Son of God (2 Samuel 7:14). This Seed is a Son both of earth and of heaven, and he would build a House of both

Earth (David's inheritance) and Heaven (God's inheritance).

Thus, if Israel was meant only to possess an earthly house, viewing as its heir Isaac or another son of Abraham, born of the flesh, then it would claim the "right" to build its house. Thus, the *earthly house of Abraham* and its builders rejected Jesus Mashiach as its Firstborn Heir, as it says:

The stone that the **builders rejected** has become the cornerstone. Psalm 118:22a

Israel, as the earthly sons of Abraham, agreed to "reject" Jesus Mashiach as their "rock" and Redeemer, because they claimed the authority of being the "builders" of House Israel.

And, this is the crux of the problem. When House Israel claims the "right" to build its own house, a house of purely earthly sons, which they have done for centuries, millennia, then these

sons will eventually *die in their sins* and face God in judgment. As it says: “I said, “You are gods (Elohim), sons of the Most High, all of you; nevertheless, like men you shall die, and fall like any prince” (Psalm 82:6-7). That is, to cling to the House of Israel as their sole inheritance *enslaves* the House to the path of mortality. Despite its birthright as the “sons” of the Most High, they are still *fleshly sons* and will “die” like men and “fall like any prince,” despite their *pedigree*.

But, Israel has chosen “builders”—fleshly men of power and ambition, to lead it. So, these “builders” have designed a house *entirely enmeshed in this world’s mortality—a fleshly house*. So, Israel offers prayers that are *fleshly prayers*, as earth-born sons following generations of traditions, repeating the same *bracha* as did their ancestors, keeping their devotion to the strict *halakhic* guidelines as set by *their fleshly builders*. But, choosing this path, Israel forfeits its

rights to God's chosen Redeemer, who comes to "atone for iniquity" and bring an "everlasting righteousness" (Daniel 9:24) as "Yahweh Tzedekenu," (Jeremiah 23:6), the "Lord our righteousness."

But, the Lord God invites Israel to become not simply a House built by fleshly hands, a perishing house, a Redeemerless house. Instead, the Lord God invites Israel to join the House that he builds, but the hands of His chosen Mashiach, Jesus—the Son of David and the Son of God, who alone builds a House of Heaven and Earth, filling it with redeemed Sons who are reborn by the Spirit of God (John 1:12).

So, as you go to the House of Israel as a Shepherd, ask its people what they would prefer—a House built on their own fleshly authority, a perishable house constructed by the collective of perishable builders, the tribe's fathers and mothers.

If this is what they choose, then they should expect to ‘die like men’ because they have put their trust in men, and all men “die,” even those with the pedigree of “princes.”

That is, confront your people: if they are so committed to holding to a temporal, fleshly, human house, then they should be resigned to let human nature and history run its course. If they encounter a threat or an enemy seeking to destroy them, either search for a human savior or accept the outcome that unfolds.

For, the Lord God promises them not simply a *temporal patch of their house* but an *Eternal House*, built by His authority and the Builder of his choosing.

Shepherd of Israel, reveal to your people that the *rightful builder* of an Eternal House is God alone. This is why the scriptures say, “God has made the cornerstone” of His Eternal house the *stone—the Redeemer* which Israel had already

rejected—Jesus the Son of God. For, the Lord God says:

therefore thus says the Lord God,
“Behold, I am the one who has laid as a
foundation in Zion, a stone, a tested
stone, **a precious cornerstone**, of a sure
foundation: ‘Whoever believes will not
be in haste.’ Isaiah 28:16

So, it is worthwhile to ask the people of Israel:
“Who has the right to build your House? Do you
want an Earthly house built by the temporal
authority of fleshly Builders? Or, do you want an
Eternal House built by God as its only Rightful
Builder, and the Stone, the Redeemer of his own
choosing—Jesus Mashiach, the Son of God?

Read Mark 11:27-33.

²⁸ and they said to him, “**By what authority** are you doing these things, or who gave you this authority to do them?” ²⁹ Jesus said to them, “I will ask you **one question**; answer me, and I will tell you by what authority I do these things. ³⁰ Was the **baptism of John** from **heaven** or from **man**? Answer me.” Mark 11:28-30..

Background:

As the *Shepherd of your Household*, or even a Shepherd seeking to restore a House to the Kingdom, it is important for you to consider the problem of “authority.” For, God created us to be *creatures* to seek to do what is “right.” We need a justification for what we do, an authority or higher

authority to support the actions we take. This does not mean that *the flesh* will always seek the path of “righteousness,” as the non-stop atrocities, transgressions, and wickedness seen in human history. Rather, even the most depraved have some *justification*, some *authority* backing what they do, even if that backing is the popular opinion of their community.

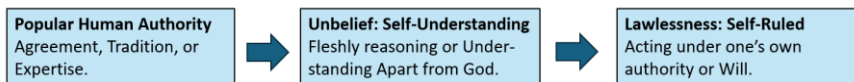
Self-Justifying or God-Anointed Authority:

For this reason, you may see the danger inherent in every household. The family itself can provide a Self-justifying authority that gives its members license to resist or contravene any other authority, including the Word of God or God Himself.

Witness how the House of Israel has acquired through its generations of Self-approval an ingrained sense of Self-approval—that is, what is “good for the Jews” is “good.” And, though the Word of God was entrusted to the House of Israel,

it was this house that devised its own tradition and system of Self-authority, the “Oral Torah” supported by generations and libraries of Jewish “learning.”

But, this appointment of Self-Justifying Authority did not originate with Israel. Rather, the very “Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil” enticed humanity to leave the Authority of the



Lord God and His Word to stand on our own, claiming the authority of *popular opinion*. Thus, whenever we see acts of *unbelief*—by which people refuse God’s authority but turn to *popular human opinion and consensus* to be the “authority” to act independently of God and his Word’s demands. The chain of authority to support *lawless living* looks like this:

So, as the *shepherd* of your house, you must decide on the *authority that authorizes and empowers* the foundation and growth of your own house.

Know that it is far too easy to give in to the flesh, and to let mere *tradition* or fleshly position or persuasion, even wealth, be the basis upon which your house is built.

Authorizing Jesus Mashiah as Lord:

When Jesus was revealed to Israel, accompanied by the heavenly signs and wonders of the present Kingdom of God and certified even by the Holy Spirit's *anointing* and the *prophecy-fulfilling* ministry of John the Baptist to herald the Mashiah, Israel still spurned this Biblical authority for its *entrenched*, fleshly and tradition-depending Self-Authority.

That is why Jesus forces the House of Israel to confront a decision to abandon God-ordained authority to develop its own, home-grown

authority by asking them pointedly if John's baptism was from "heaven or man"? (Mark 11:30).

Thus, as a *Household Shepherd*, it imperative that you intentionally build your *household* to give Jesus Mashiach the place of authority as Lord to build your household according to His purposes. That requires you to:

- Uncover **faulty bases** of authority:

While your family identity will always traces its identity through the generations back to its notable fathers, remember the words of Jesus—you have "one" Father who has the right to give the family its name and in whom all the family members identify (Matthew 23:9). That is, throughout your generations, your Household is to be known first and forever as a part of the "House of God" in Jesus Mashiach.

As notable *family members* instruct and guide the younger generations, ensure that they serve

as mere *representatives* of the family's only Lord and Instructor, the Mashiach (Matthew 23:8).

But, make much of the name of Jesus, and let your "greatness" be known in service to the Lord and His Kingdom. Never to make a name for yourself. To seek to be more than brothers, serving your Lord and united in his cause, is the start of seeking *fleshly authority* apart from his authority.

- Guard against any False or Fleshly power accumulating;

In Judaism, the proliferation of "great ones" whose names gathered followings and whose fleshly authority led to the building of worldly kingdoms, diminished the rightful authority of Mashiach. So, when Jesus Mashiach was revealed to Israel, he was met by resistance and apathy, for great followings based on *human authority* stole the devotion that belonged to him alone. So, little inroads for the Kingdom were possible due to this resistance.

Even in the Church Age, the Self-ambition of church leaders and shepherds diluted the Lord's Kingdom Authority so that great amounts of money, time, and labor was spent to build denominational or institutional edifices. Great systems of theology, of denominational movements, or networks of churches arose, but the fruit of the Kingdom diminished. Households were each defined by their own agendas, traditions, and values but which had little devotion left to spend on obeying the Lord or doing his Will. Families, of course, sacrificed greatly but to *gain the world, to make lasting names, and to advance* in the approval and opinion of other men. But, little effort was spent seeking the Lord Jesus or making way for his authoritative will to be done.

- Recognize the **God-given Authority** of Jesus Mashiach **over** your Household;

Thus, along with your fellow *housedhold shepherd*, be proactive in given Jesus Mashiach his God-given authority to build and shape your house!

- **Word:** Build your Household on hearing and obeying **His Word** (Matthew 7:24).
- **Jesus:** Lay the **foundation** of **Jesus** Mashiach as Lord in every member of your household (1 Corinthians 3:11).
- **Seek Kingdom:** Seek His Kingdom and His righteousness first in your family as a shared priority (Matthew 6:33);
- **Seek his Will:** Pray together to discern what the Father is doing, whom the Father is drawing into the Kingdom, and to whom its members are being sent. (Matthew 6:9-10).
- **Share and offer to the Father:** Names whom the Family is testifying to in the world. (Matthew 5:13-16).

Thus, endeavor to know how the Lord is working in and building your Household as a unit of his larger House and its Kingdom strategy.

Note to Shepherds going to the House of Israel.

As you read the Lord's confrontation with the Pharisees who wanted to know the "authority" he had, you will also confront a people firmly entrenched in their own religious systems of "authority" and Self-Justification, which make them impervious to considering any other possibility other than their own "rightness" in their eyes. So, the question is, how can you establish Jesus Mashiach as the legitimate "God-Anointed Builder of the Lord's House?"

In his discussion with the Pharisees, Jesus addresses the *crux* of Jewish resistance to his authority as Mashiach: "From where does the authority of Mashiach come—from man or from

God?” This question is most relevant today, as the Jewish view of Mashiach and his “authority” has been further displaced from “God” to the Jewish people and tradition.

As you know, the Jewish people are especially enslaved by this secular moment of history so that the *horizon* of their perspective is filled with their Jewish identity and tradition. So, here are some pointers from the Lord’s confrontation with the Pharisees of how to address Jewish resistance:

- **Frame the Question:** God or Man-based authority? Simplifying the question of Mashiach and his authority to its most basic question helps to make sense of generations of Jewish history and volumes of Talmudic teaching or rabbinic positions on Mashiach.

Raising the possibility of “God Himself” having the power to designate his chosen Mashiach should also confront Jews. For, at this point, Jews are in the season of “deadness” as prophesied by

Ezekiel 37. Having rejected Jesus as Mashiach, Hosea promises “two days” of deadness (Hosea 6:2), having been “torn” and “struck down” (6:1). In this time of “deadness,” the House of Israel likely has assimilated God into its own collective understanding so that what Israel conceives and God thinks are the same thing.

How different a picture the Scriptural record paints of God’s relationship with Israel. When Israel assumes that it is *safe* in its religion, Isaiah denounces its idolatry (Isaiah 1). In fact, God’s **mind and will** were described by Daniel from the Babylonian captivity to 483 years after, to the year 33 CE (Daniel 9:24), yet the Jewish people are largely **blind** to what God had done.

- God said to the Jewish people in the 1st century: “Expect Mashiach to atone for sin and bring an everlasting righteousness” (as also confirmed by Jeremiah 23:5-6) in the time of Herod the King (33 CE).

- The Jewish people of the time practically said to this: “We don’t need a Mashiach. We have our traditions, our Rabbis, and our Self-righteousness from Torah-observance.” And, the Jewish people have maintained that position to this day. Suffering the loss of their homeland, a mass genocide, and the antipathy of the world.

So, what will change the thinking of the House of Israel regarding Mashiach and his *anointing by God*?

Considering the Authority of Mashiach:

When Jesus asked, “Where is the baptism of John from, from heaven or from man?” He guided the *teachers of the day* to consider two indefensible positions:

God has the right to Authorize and Commission
Mashiach for His role of Redemption:

- **If from God:** “Yes, we know God has the right to authorize and define Mashiach and His Mission, but we are unwilling to accept this because it would be too costly:”

Even if Jews have the clarity to recognize that God alone anoints Mashiach, yet they would still willfully reject God’s choice and plan for Mashiach because it did not align with their *fleshly power* and position they had accumulated for themselves. Though they would openly agree that God’s way was right, they could never accept it. So, through the tools of unbelief: a) competing interpretive positions, b) interpretive misunderstanding, or c) willful misreading of God’s promises and work, Jews would void the clear promises of God regarding Mashiach.

- **God authorized appointment:** A God-authorized appointing of Mashiach would have these confirming support:

- **Kingdom Signs:** In the Last Days, the Lord God will once again *affirm* the authority of his Mashiach by unmistakable signs and wonders. When you read this, likely the Lord Jesus will have evacuated his Church from the earth as he promised to us in Revelation 3:10, keeping us from the “Tribulation” soon overtaking the world and as a sign to the Jews that “I have loved you (the Church)” (v.9).

- **Prophetic History:** Consider that the Word of God has been very clear of the path of Jewish history, starting with the Babylonian Exile. God has already given Israel his undeterred purpose from the point that the King (Artaxerxes II) decrees Jerusalem rebuilt and the Law restored to the *cutting off of Mashiach* to be 483 years, and so the crucifixion of Jesus occurred in the year 33

CE. Because the Jews rejected Jesus as their Mashiach and despised any need for his redemption, they were *cut off* and banished to a season of barrenness to last “two days” (Hosea 6:2). So, the House of Israel has experienced a barrenness for its rebellion for two thousand years, while the Gentile church has run its course, with multitudes enjoying the *blessing* of Jesus Mashiach and his grace. Now, Israel fast approaches the “Day of the Lord” when it will face total annihilation, until it looks upon Jesus as its Lord and only Redeemer.

- **If from man:** By rejecting God’s Will for Mashiach, Israel must recognize that they have already chosen a “man-invented” Israel has formulated a view of Mashiach that is
 - **Prophetically Incomplete:** To find a

Mashiach to accommodate and not disrupt their fleshly belief-system of Judaism, Israel's teachers have constructed a Mashiach that is a:

- Mere human son of David: Based on 2 Samuel 7:12, Israel has proclaimed Mashiach to be simply a son of David. As a mere mortal of the nation, he is no different from any other of its rulers. However, whoever adopts this view does not know their Tanakh for: 1) David's existing human line of kings was *cursed at Jeconiah* (Jeremiah 22:30) and 2) God says Mashiach would also be "my son" (2 Samuel 7:14), and 3) ignoring all the clear references in Tanakh where Mashiach is called the "Son" of God (Psalm 2:7), Isaiah 9:6, and given the name "Lord": Jeremiah 30:9, Zechariah 2:10-11, Psalm 110:1.

(Note: Jewish teachers practice an evasive hermeneutic, selecting a portion of scripture to support their narrow view of a purely mortal Mashiach. However, pressing them to look at the

whole passage, the weight of scripture, and not just the “plain meaning” but the “plain intention” behind the words. An integrated, clearly, and fully transparent but vastly inconvenient and discomfoting to the religiously powerful is the presentation of Mashiach as God’s Heir, who alone and not any *fleshly teachers* deserves the glory and power. The *discomfoting implications* of this testify also of its truth. God’s will is to invest all his creation into the hands of His Son, Mashiach, and not into the heads of *Self-important, fleshly teachers* who accumulate power and luxury for themselves at the impoverishing of the rest of the House.

- **Practically Useless:** Imagine—The Lord God promises Israel a Mashiach to Redeem their sins and give them a perfect *righteousness* as their Lord (Jeremiah 23:5-6), but their teacher would need to abandon their place of privilege and fleshly control. So, Israel has endured the

yoke of these Self-serving and Self-honoring “great ones” for generations. Moreover, the Lord God promises to send Mashiach as the “Lord of Hosts,” the “King of Glory” to Israel as her “wall of fire” (Zechariah 2:5). Instead, lest Israel and its teachers would need to *humble themselves* and discard the idea that they had the Godlike ability to “redeem” and to “save” themselves, even when their ancestors bowed to Pharaoh and his primitive force equipped with spears and swords. Now, great nations of Russia, Iran, Egypt, Turkey, and Ethiopia are destined to invade them with modern weaponry, millions of troops, and thousands of nuclear weapons. Yet, Israel brazenly insists on a *frail scholar-Mashiach, bespectacled and stooped like a Shneersen*. To protect them from these genocidal masses. All because they entertain the myth that they as a people are more than human, clinging to Self-redemption when even the Word of God says,

“Truly no man can ransom another, or give to God the price of his life” (Psalm 49:7). After generations of Torah-keeping, Israel realized, “We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteousness deeds are like a polluted garment” (Isaiah 64:6). Still, Israel would rather face certain extinction by holding to a man-created Mashiach, a Torah-waving scholar who would be the first to be incinerated, rather than humbly recognize that it cannot redeem itself, that it needs a Redeemer with the power of the “Lord” himself to save it from its own sins and its unappeasable enemies!

So, as a *household shepherd*, make much of Mashiach as Lord and his power to save, shouting with your family, “Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!”

Focus:

3. **Anointed Builder**: Heavenly Authority of Mashiach or human authority to Build house:

1. **Self-Righteous**: doubt Mashiach's authority to build house. 11:27-28.
2. **Source of Power**: God or man? 11:29-30."
3. **Undermining Unbelief**: fear of man denies authority. 11:31-33.

Consider:

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Question:

Further Discovery: