

Matthew 21:23-32

DFH Worship Translation

²³ And when he went into the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people approached him and said while [he was] teaching, “By what authority do you do these things, and who gave you this authority?”

²⁴ And Jesus answered and said to them, “And I also will ask you one thing which if you tell me I also will tell you by what authority I do these things.

²⁵ From where was the baptism of John? From heaven or from men?” And they pondered among themselves, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say to us, ‘Why then did you not believe him?’

²⁶ But if we say, ‘From men,’ we are afraid of the crowd, for everyone looks upon John as a prophet.”

²⁷ And they answered Jesus and said, “We do not know.” And he said to them, “Neither [will] I tell you by what authority I do these things.

²⁸ And what does it seem to you? A man has two children; and he approaches the first and says, ‘Child, go today and work in the vineyard.’

²⁹ But he answered and said, ‘I do not want to,’ but later he changed his mind and departed.

³⁰ And he approached the other and said likewise, and he answered and said, ‘I [will go], lord,’ and he did not depart.

³¹ Which of the two did the will of [the] father.” They say, “The first.” Jesus says to them, “Amen, I say to you, that the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going ahead of you into the kingdom of God.

³² For John came to you in [the] way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him, but you saw and did not change your minds later to believe him.”