

**“Never Man Spake!”**  
**John 7:45-53**

**Introduction:**

1. There Is Great Power:
    - In Words!
      - Whether Those Words:
        - Are Written Words Or Spoken Words!
      - There Is Great Power:
        - In Words!
    - We Can See This:
      - Even Today - With All The Reactions:
        - Over The Recent Take-Over:
          - Of Twitter By:
            - Elon Musk!
      - Some Are *All For*:
        - His New Leadership:
          - Over This Company!
        - While Many Are:
          - Down-Right *Angry*:
            - Over It!
    - Why? Because:
      - Everyone Knows That:
        - There Is Great Power:
          - In Words!
        - Even If Those Words Are Limited:
          - To Just 280 Characters!
2. Well - As We Turn Back In Our Bibles:
    - To John 7 - We Will See Once Again:
      - The Great Power:
        - Of The Words Of Jesus - Which He Spoke:
          - In The Temple:
            - On The Last & Greatest Day Of The Feast Of Tabernacles!
        - The Words Which Are Recorded For Us:
          - In 7:37- When Jesus:
            - “Stood And Cried, Saying, If Any Man Thirst, Let Him Come Unto Me And Drink!”
      - These Words:
        - Are Powerful Words!
          - And John Used Only:
            - 50 Characters To Record Them!
        - But - If You Hear Them & Apply Them:
          - They Have The Power:
            - To Change Your Life Forever!
3. Well - There Were *Many*:
    - At The Temple That Day:
      - Who Heard Jesus’ Words:
        - With Their Own Ears!
    - And - Some Of Them:
      - Were The Very Men - Even “Officers” - Who:
        - Were Given The Task:
          - By “The Pharisees And The Chief Priests” To “Take Him!”
            - To Apprehend & Arrest Jesus:
              - And Bring Him To Them!
    - But - As We Come To:
      - 7:44-53 - We Discover That:
        - The Power Of Jesus’ Words:
          - Overtook & Disarmed:
            - Whatever Power Of Those Men Had!
      - Let’s Read These Verses Together:

- “And some of them would have taken him; but no man laid hands on him. / Then came the officers to the chief priests and Pharisees; and they said unto them, Why have ye not brought him? / The officers answered, Never man spake like this man. / Then answered them the Pharisees, Are ye also deceived? / Have any of the rulers or of the Pharisees believed on him? / But this people who knoweth not the law are cursed. / Nicodemus saith unto them, (he that came to Jesus by night, being one of them,) / Doth our law judge any man, before it hear him, and know what he doeth? / They answered and said unto him, Art thou also of Galilee? Search, and look: for out of Galilee ariseth no prophet. / And every man went unto his own house!”

4. So - After The “Officers” Heard:

- The Words Of Jesus For Themselves:
  - They Just Couldn’t Get Themselves:
    - To Lay A Single Hand:
      - On Jesus!
  - Now - These “Officers” Were:
    - Not Weak Men!
      - Not In Body, Nor In Mind!
- They Were Members Of The Tribe Of Levi:
  - Who Had The Responsibility:
    - To Guard The Temple!
      - And - They Would Have Gone Through:
        - Intense Training:
          - To Do Their Job Well!
      - And - Not Just Physical Training!
        - But Religious Training!
          - Because Of The Religious Laws:
            - They Were To Enforce!
    - You Have To Wonder:
      - If They Had Some Kind Of:
        - “Police Academy” - To Become:
          - An Officer Of The Temple Guard!

5. But - After Hearing:

- The Powerful Word Of Jesus:
  - They Returned To Their Superiors:
    - In 7:45 - Empty-Handed!
      - “Then came the officers to the chief priests and Pharisees; and they said unto them, Why have ye not brought him?”
- The Chief Priests & Pharisees:
  - That Are Mentioned Here:
    - Probably Made Up The Great Sanhedrin:
      - Which Was The Supreme Court Of The Jews - And Had The Responsibility:
        - Of Handling Important Questions:
          - Concerning Jewish Law! Both Civil & Religious!
- The Sanhedrin Consisted:
  - Of Seventy-One Elders:
    - And They Met In A Building - Called:
      - “The Hall Of Hewn Stones” - Just Steps:
        - Away From The Temple Itself!
  - And - They Met Together:
    - Every Day Of The Year:
      - Except On Festival & Sabbath Days!
  - So - Sometime After The Feast Of Tabernacles:
    - They Met - And Waited:
      - For Their Officers To Return!

6. But - When They Finally Did:

- Their Failure To Deliver Jesus Was An Affront:
  - To Their Leader’s Authority & Pride!
- So - The Pharisees Questioned The Officers:
  - About Their Dereliction:

- Of Duty!
- And Then Waited For Their Reply!
  - But - The Way The Officers Answered:
    - Shows Us Once Again:
      - The Power Of Jesus' Words!
      - Because Of:

1. ***The Great Impression Of Jesus' Words!***

- The Great & Strong Impression:
  - Upon Those Strong Officers:
    - Of The Temple Guard!
      - 7:46 - "The officers answered, Never man spake like this man!"
  - Those Officers:
    - Who Were Sent:
      - To Arrest Jesus:
        - Did Not Do So:
          - Because They *Could Not* Do So!
    - Because - They Experienced A:
      - Fear & Wonder:
        - From Jesus' Words!
      - That Overtook:
        - Any Fear They Had:
          - Of Their Superiors!
  - "Never Man Spake Like This Man!"
    - Those Who Were Sent:
      - To Apprehend Jesus:
        - Where Apprehended Themselves:
          - By Jesus' Own Words!
  - "Never Man Spake Like This Man!"
    - The Words Of Jesus - And:
      - The Message Of Jesus:
        - Was Completely Different:
          - Than Any Other Words They'd Ever Heard!
  - "Never Man Spake Like This Man!"
    - This Means That:
      - When It Came To:
- What They Heard - In Jesus' Words:
  - They Never Heard:
    - ***Anything Like It!***
      - After All - The Words Of Jesus:
        - Were Full Of Grace & Truth!
  - On Another Occasion:
    - When Jesus Was Reading & Teaching:
      - From The Scriptures In His Home-Town Of Nazareth:
        - We Are Told That: "All bare him witness, and wondered at the gracious words which proceeded out of his mouth!" (Luke 422)
  - Truly - "Never A Man Spake Like This Man!"
    - Also - When It Came To:
- When They Heard - Jesus' Words:
  - They Never Heard:
    - ***Anything Like It - At:***
      - ***Anytime!***
  - Jesus Took That Great Jewish Festival:
    - And Made It His Own!
      - To Show Them That:
        - He Came To Fulfill:
          - The Very Ceremonies They Were Using:
            - To Celebrate God's Provision!

- “Never A Man Spake Like This Man!”
  - Also - When It Came To The:
- Way They Heard - Jesus’ Words!
  - They Never Heard:
    - ***Anything Like It - At:***
      - ***Anytime - In - Anyway!***
  - Just Consider The Way:
    - Jesus Said His Words!
      - In Matthew 7:29 - There Were Others:
        - Who Where “Astonished At His Doctrine: For He Taught Them As One Having Authority!”
      - And So - Even On That Great Day Of The Feast:
        - They *Way* Jesus Spoke:
          - Was With Such:
            - Courage & Conviction & Compassion!
    - “Never A Man Spake Like This Man!”
      - But - Ultimately - When It Came To:
- Who They Heard - When Jesus Spoke!
  - They Never Heard:
    - ***Anything Like It:***
      - ***At Anytime, In Anyway, From Anyone:***
        - ***Like Jesus!***
    - And Those Officers:
      - Were Impressed!
        - And - “The Authority, Majesty, And Power Of The Speaker Restrained These Officers!” (Lenski)
    - And - Even As They Were Sent:
      - To Arrest Jesus:
        - *For* His Words!
          - They Stumbled Onto The Truth:
            - That “Never A Man Spake Like This Man!”
      - After All - Jesus Was:
        - More Than Just *A* Man!
          - He Was The “Son Of Man” Who Was The Very “Son Of God!”
  - Have You Been Affected:
    - In This Way - By The Words Of Jesus?
      - Have You Come To The Conclusion Yourself That:
        - “Never A Man Spake Like This Man!”
    - If So - Are You Letting:
      - His Words:
        - Move You & Change You:
          - To Greater Faith In The Lord:
            - & Greater Faithfulness To The Lord?
    - There Is Still Great Power:
      - In The Words Of Jesus!
        - And May They Still Make:
          - A Great Impression:
            - On Your Mind & Heart & Soul!
    - But - When God Does Impress:
      - His Words - And - The Words Of Jesus:
        - Upon You - You Can Then Expect:
          - Opposition To Come!
      - And - This Is What We See Next:
        - When The Pharisees Respond To:
          - The Officers & Even Nicodemus, Who Was “One Of Them!”
    - And So - Even Though:
      - The Powerful Words Of Jesus:
        - Can Make A Great Impression On Some!

- They Can Also Become:
  - A Great Imposition To Others!
- And So - Starting In 7:47 - We See:

## 2. ***The Great Imposition Of Jesus' Words!***

- The Great Imposition:
  - Upon The Religious Leaders:
    - Who Should Have Known Better!
      - And - In 7:47 - We See:
        - An Attempt By The Pharisees:
          - To Put A Stop To Jesus' Great Impression - First:
- Through Implication!
  - "Then answered them the Pharisees, Are ye also deceived?"
    - The Pharisees Probably Felt Like:
      - Their Grip On The People:
        - Was Already Starting To Slip Away!
      - To Them - Many Of The Weaker Jews:
        - Were Already "Deceived" By Jesus!
    - But - *Not Now* - These Officers!
      - *Not Them* - With All Of Their:
        - Religious Training!
      - So - They Tried To Appeal To:
        - Their Sensibilities:
          - As Faithful Jews & Levites!
            - Guardians Of God's Law & Temple!
    - "You Haven't Been Deceived Too – Have You?"
      - The Pharisees Would Do Anything:
        - To Keep Their Impression Of Jesus:
          - From Going Any Further!
        - We Also See This:
- Through Intimidation!
  - In 7:48 - "Have any of the rulers or of the Pharisees believed on him?"
    - The Pharisees Tried To Intimidate:
      - Those Officers - To Remember:
        - Their Position & Place!
    - Because - If Their Superiors Didn't Believe In Jesus:
      - Why Would *They*?
        - How *Could* They?
          - This Would Be A Breach Of Tradition & Trust!
    - The Pharisees Continued:
      - To Berate The Officers - Also:
- Through Incrimination!
  - In 7:49 - "But this people who knoweth not the law are cursed!" - With This:
    - The Pharisees Attempted To:
      - Lump The Officers:
        - With The Rabble Of The Crowd!
    - A Crowd They Considered To Be Cursed:
      - Because - They Didn't Know:
        - God's Law Anywhere Close:
          - To The Way They Did!
    - And - If They Didn't *Know* God's Law:
      - Then They Couldn't *Keep* God's Law!
        - And Were Thus *Cursed*:
          - By God's Law!
      - Deuteronomy 25:26 - "Cursed be he that confirmeth not all the words of this law to do them!"
        - Of Course - This Was According To *Their* Definition Of God's Law!
          - To Which They Added Their Own Rules & Regulations!
    - But - The Challenge To The Officers Was This:
      - Whose Side Are You On?

- The Side Of The Law-Keepers - Or:
  - The Law-Breakers?
- The Side Of The Wise - Or:
  - The Foolish?
- The Side Of The Leaders - Or:
  - The Losers?
- The Pharisees Just Couldn't Stand:
  - The Impression Jesus Made:
    - Upon Their Officers - Or Even:
      - On The Crowd!
  - But - When Nicodemus Finally Spoke Up:
    - In 7:50 - His Own Peers:
      - Tried To Pressure Him Too!
      - But - This Time:
- Through Insult!
  - In 7:52 - When - "They answered and said unto him, Art thou also of Galilee? Search, and look: for out of Galilee ariseth no prophet!"
    - Once Again In John:
      - We Are Given A Taste Of The:
        - Prejudice That Persisted:
          - Between The Jews Of The South / Judea & The Jews Of The North / Galilee!
    - Galilee Was Considered To Be:
      - A Place Of Spiritual:
        - Darkness & Division & Even Discipline:
          - By The Lord!
      - Even In Isaiah 9:1 - It Was Called:
        - "Galilee Of The Nations!"
          - It Was A Major Cross-Roads Of The World In Ancient Times:
            - And - It Was Prone To The Influence Of The World As Well!
    - And So - To Lump Nicodemus In With:
      - Jesus As A Galilean:
        - Would Have Been A Significant Insult:
          - To A Man Of His Standing:
            - As A "Master / Teacher Of Israel!" (3:10)
    - But - Since Nicodemus Challenged *Them*:
      - And Their Application Of The Law:
        - They Challenged *Him*:
          - And *His* Knowledge Of The Scriptures!
            - "Search & Look Yourself!"
    - But They Did Not Realize - That In Their Haste:
      - It Was *They* Who Needed To:
        - "Search & Look!"
          - Because - "Out Of Galilee" There *Had* Been Prophets Sent By God!
            - Had They Forgotten About Jonah? And Probably Even Elijah?
  - But - What We See From This:
    - Is The Way The World:
      - Will Often Try To:
        - Keep The Word Of God:
          - From Making Its Impression:
            - Upon Thirsty Sinners Like Us!
      - The Pharisees Were Using Any Techniques They Could:
        - To Keep God's Word:
          - From Doing God's Work - In The:
            - Hearts & Lives Of These Men!
        - But - Who's Word:
          - Is More Powerful?
            - The World's Or The Lord's?

- But - When The Powerful Words Of Christ:
  - Make Their Impression Upon You:
    - You Can Expect The Same Kind Of Reaction & Persecution!
    - By The World & The Worldly!
- But - No Matter What:
  - People May Say Or Do To You:
    - It Doesn't Change The Fact That:
      - 7:46 - "Never A Man Spake Like This Man!"
- Do Not Let Anyone Or Anything:
  - Discourage Or Sway You From:
    - Listening To & Following After:
      - The Word Of The Lord!
  - After All - Remember What Peter Said:
    - About The Words Of Jesus?
      - 6:68 - "Lord, to whom shall we go? thou hast the words of eternal life!"
- No Matter What Kind Of:
  - Techniques Are Used To:
    - Keep God's Word From Taking Hold In Your Heart!
    - And - This Is Happening More & More Frequently! Even Same Techniques!
  - Remember That:
    - "Never Man Spake Like This Man!"
    - Because - Just Look At Next:

### 3. ***The Great Inspiration Of Jesus' Words!***

- The Great Inspiration:
  - On The One Who Spoke Up For Jesus:
    - In 7:50-51 - Nicodemus!
  - In John 3 - It Was To Nicodemus:
    - That Jesus Graciously Said:
      - 3:14-15 - "As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up: / That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life!"
  - Now - Did Nicodemus Believe At That Point?
    - We Don't Know For Sure!
      - But If Nicodemus Doesn't Speak Up Here:
        - *With Faith* In Jesus!
      - He At Least Speaks Up:
        - *In Favor* Of Jesus!
    - Perhaps An Ember Of Faith:
      - Had Been Sparked In His Heart:
        - When He "Came To Jesus By Night!"
      - So That Now - The Power Of Jesus Words:
        - Were Starting To Affect Him:
          - In A Way That Surprised Even Him!
  - Though - As Someone Once Remarkd:
    - "His Defense Of Jesus Is Not Exactly Spirited!"
      - It Still Seems As If:
        - The Words Of Jesus:
          - Were Starting To Inspire & Rub Off On Him!
        - Even As They Will Do:
          - To You - When You Are:
            - Touched By His Words!
      - We Can Even See This In:
  - A New Courage:
    - From The Powerful Words Of Christ!
      - In 7:50 - The Only One To Speak Up:
        - Is Nicodemus!
    - Here - John Reminds Us That:

- This Was The Same Nicodemus:
  - Who “Came To Jesus By Night!”
- And If The Timing:
  - Of His Encounter With Jesus:
    - Was Any Indication Of His Character - What A Change:
      - Already Took Place In His Life!
- 7:50 - *“Nicodemus Saith Unto Them!”*
  - In Spite Of All The Tactics & Techniques:
    - The Rest Of The Sanhedrin Used:
      - To Silence The Officers!
  - Nicodemus Was Given Courage:
    - To Speak Up For The Lord!
      - Even Though His Voice Was The Only Voice To Do So!
- But - This Is What God’s Word:
  - Can Do For You!
    - Are You Weak Or Reluctant:
      - In Your Words / Witness For Christ? Jesus Can:
        - Give You His Courage To Speak For Him!
- Even If You Are The Only Voice:
  - For The Lord:
    - Where God Has Put You!
  - Christ Can Enable & Strengthen:
    - Your Voice - To Be:
      - The Single Voice Of Clarity:
        - In A World Of Noise And Confusion!
- We Can Also See In Nicodemus:
- A New Conviction:
  - In The Powerful Words Of God!
    - In 7:51 - He Rightly Applies The Law Of God:
      - To The Situation At Hand!
  - “Doth our law judge any man, before it hear him, and know what he doeth?”
    - In The Old Testament - There Were Certain Steps:
      - That Were Required To Be Taken:
        - To Ensure Justice!
    - These Steps Included:
      - A Process Of:
        - Discovery & Deliberation & Decision!
  - However - The Rest Of His Colleagues:
    - Already Made Their Decision:
      - Against Christ!
    - They Agreed That:
      - “Out Of Galilee Ariseth No Prophet!”
        - Not Even “The Prophet” That They Were Hoping For!
- But - God Gave Nicodemus:
  - A New Conviction & Courage:
    - In His Word!
  - So That - He Could Speak Up For Justice:
    - And Tell The Rest Of The Sanhedrin:
      - “You Are Out Of Order!”
    - This Too Can Only Come:
      - Through The Power:
        - Of That Word!
- We Can Also See In Nicodemus:
- A New Compassion!
  - When Nicodemus Heard Jesus’ Compassionate Words:
    - He Experienced What Those Officers Experienced!
      - 7:46 - “Never A Man Spake Like This Man!”
- And So - The Compassion Of Christ:



- Led Nicodemus To Speak Up:
  - In Compassion As Well!
- And In This Way:
  - The Power Of Jesus' Words:
    - Impressed & Inspired Nicodemus:
      - To Speak *For Jesus*:
      - Even As Jesus:
        - Spoke *To Him!*

**Conclusion:**

1. This Is The Exclusive Power:
  - Of The Words:
    - Of Jesus Christ!
  - After All:
    - 7:46 - "Never A Man Spake Like This Man!"
2. Have The Words Of Jesus Christ:
  - Made This Kind Of Impression Upon You?
    - If Not - Then:
      - Ask The Lord To Give You:
        - Ears To Hear His Words:
          - In A Fresh & New & Powerful Way!
    - Because - When You Hear From Jesus In This Way:
      - You Will Never Hear:
        - Anything Like It!
          - Not At Anytime, In Anyway, Nor From Anyone Else!
      - Because - He Alone Has:
        - "The Words Of Eternal Life!"
  - 3. But - If It Has Made:
    - This Kind Of Impression On You:
      - Then - Do Not Let The World:
        - Draw You Away From His Word!
          - No Matter What Tactic Or Technique:
            - They May Try To Use!
      - Instead - Let The Power:
        - Of The "Good Word Of God":
          - Inspire & Inflamm Your Own Heart:
            - So That You Might Speak:
              - His Word - In The Same Way:
                - Christ Did!
        - With Courage & Conviction & Compassion!
      - 4. But - Each Day:
        - Return To God's Word:
          - Which - In Its Entirety - From Cover To Cover - Is:
            - The Powerful Word Of Jesus!
          - Because - You Need To Hear:
            - His Voice - More Than:
              - Anyone Else's!
          - And Remember:
            - "Never A Man Spake Like This Man!"
              - Like Jesus!

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