The Parables Of Jesus
Lesson 17

The Parable Of The Two Sons (Mt. 21:28-32)

Where & When:

- In Jerusalem, on Tuesday during the last week of Jesus' earthly ministry
  - It was the final day of His *public* teaching

Occasion Producing The Parable:

- Jesus had made a "triumphal entry" into the city on Sunday (Mt. 21:1-11; Lk. 19:39)
- The next day *(Monday)*, He cleansed the temple a 2nd time (Mt. 21:12-13; cp. Jn. 2:13-16)
- The Jews were indignant…and obviously felt threatened
- They requested Jesus tell them *"by what authority"* He was acting (Mt. 21:23)
- Jesus agrees to answer their question if they will first answer His question re: the "authority" of John's baptism (Mt. 21:24-27)

Questions:

1) Summarize the parable in vv. 28-30.

2) What is the obvious difference between the 2 sons?

3) Who do you think is represented by each son?

4) What question did Jesus ask the Jewish chief priests and elders? (v. 31a) How did they respond? (v. 31b)

5) How does Jesus apply this short parable based upon their answer? (vv. 31c-32)

6) How does Jesus connect the intent of this parable with His earlier question re: John and his baptism?

7) What is the ***main*** lesson this parable teaches?

8) *Thought question*: in what way(s) are present-day readers to understand and apply this parable?