

“They talked it over among themselves. ‘If we say it was from heaven, he will ask us why we didn’t believe John. But if we say it was merely human, we’ll be mobbed because the people believe John was a prophet.’ So they finally replied, ‘We don’t know.’ And Jesus responded, ‘Then I won’t tell you by what authority I do these things.’”
Matthew 21:25-27 (NLT)

B. Jesus’ Sonship

“There was once a man, a wealthy farmer, who planted a vineyard. He fenced it, dug a winepress, put up a watchtower, then turned it over to the farmhands and went off on a trip. When it was time to harvest the grapes, he sent his servants back to collect his profits. The farmhands grabbed the first servant and beat him up. The next one they murdered. They threw stones at the third but he got away. The owner tried again, sending more servants. They got the same treatment. The owner was at the end of his rope. He decided to send his son. ‘Surely,’ he thought, ‘they will respect my son.’ But when the farmhands saw the son arrive, they rubbed their hands in greed. ‘This is the heir! Let’s kill him and have it all for ourselves.’ They grabbed him, threw him out, and killed him. ‘Now, when the owner of the vineyard arrives home from his trip, what do you think he will do to the farmhands?’ ‘He’ll kill them - a rotten bunch, and good riddance,’ they answered. Then he’ll assign the vineyard to farmhands who will hand over the profits when it’s time.’ Jesus said, ‘Right....’ When the religious leaders heard this story, they knew it was aimed at them.”
Matthew 21:33-42,45 (Msg)

“They wanted to arrest Jesus and put him in jail, but, intimidated by public opinion, they held back.”
Matthew 21:46 (Msg)

C. Jesus’ Loyalties

“The Pharisees met together to plot how to trap Jesus into saying something for which he could be arrested. They sent some of their disciples, along with the supporters of Herod, to meet with him. ‘Teacher,’ they said, ‘we know how honest you are. You teach the way of God truthfully. You are impartial and don’t play favorites. Now tell us what you think about this: Is it right to pay taxes to Caesar or not?’”
Matthew 22:15-17 (NLT)

“Is it right to pay taxes to Caesar or not?”
Matthew 22:17 (NLT)

“He saw through their trickery and said, ‘Show me a Roman coin. Whose picture and title are stamped on it?’ ‘Caesar’s,’ they replied. ‘Well then,’ he said, ‘give to Caesar what belongs to Caesar, and give to God what belongs to God.’”
Luke 20:23-25 (NLT)

“Give to Ceasar what belongs to Ceasar....” Luke 20:25 (NLT)

“So they failed to trap him by what he said in front of the people. Instead, they were amazed by his answer, and they became silent.”
Luke 20:26 (NLT)

D. Jesus’ Knowledge Of God And His Word

“That same day Jesus was approached by some Sadducees - religious leaders who say there is no resurrection from the dead. They posed this question: ‘Teacher, Moses said, ‘If a man dies without children, his brother should marry the widow and have a child who will carry on the brother’s name.’ Well, suppose there were seven brothers. The oldest one married and then died without children, so his brother married the widow. But the second brother also died, and the third brother married her. This continued with all seven of them. Last of all, the woman also died. So tell us, whose wife will she be in the resurrection? For all seven were married to her.’”
Matthew 22:23-28 (NLT)

“Jesus replied, ‘Your mistake is that you don’t know the Scriptures, and you don’t know the power of God. For when the dead rise, they will neither marry nor be given in marriage. In this respect they will be like the angels in heaven. But now, as to whether there will be a resurrection of the dead - haven’t you ever read about this in the Scriptures? Long after Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob had died, God said, ‘I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.’ So he is the God of the living, not the dead.’”
Matthew 22:29-32 (NLT)

E. Jesus – The True Messiah

“Surrounded by the Pharisees, Jesus asked them a question: ‘What do you think about the Messiah? Whose son is he?’ They replied, ‘He is the son of David.’”
Matthew 22:41-42 (NLT)

“Jesus responded, ‘Then why does David, speaking under the inspiration of the Spirit, call the Messiah ‘my Lord’? For David said, ‘The LORD said to my Lord, Sit in the place of honor at my right hand until I humble your enemies beneath your feet.’ Since David called the Messiah ‘my Lord,’ how can the Messiah be his son?’ No one could answer him. And after that, no one dared to ask him any more questions.”
Matthew 22:43-46 (NLT)

“When Jesus had finished saying all these things, he said to his disciples, ‘As you know, Passover begins in two days, and the Son of Man will be handed over to be crucified.’ At that same time the leading priests and elders were meeting at the residence of Caiaphas, the high priest, plotting how to capture Jesus secretly and kill him.”
Matthew 26:1-4 (NLT)

THE TIME HAD COME
7 Days: The Week That Changed Everything – Part 1
March 8, 2026
Jerry Clonch

“Jesus sent him on his way with a stern warning: ‘Don’t tell anyone about this.’”
Mark 1:43-44 (NLT)

“Jesus gave them strict orders not to tell anyone what had happened....”
Mark 5:43 (NLT)

“Jesus and his disciples left Galilee and went up to the villages near Caesarea Philippi. As they were walking along, he asked them, ‘Who do people say I am?’ ‘Well,’ they replied, ‘some say John the Baptist, some say Elijah, and others say you are one of the other prophets.’ Then he asked them, ‘But who do you say I am?’ Peter replied, ‘You are the Messiah.’ But Jesus warned them not to tell anyone about him.”
Mark 8:27-30 (NLT)

I. FIVE CONFLICTS

A. Jesus’ Authority

“When Jesus returned to the Temple and began teaching, the leading priests and elders came up to him. They demanded, ‘By what authority are you doing all these things? Who gave you the right?’ ‘I’ll tell you by what authority I do these things if you answer one question,’ Jesus replied. ‘Did John’s authority to baptize come from heaven, or was it merely human?’”
Matthew 21:23-25 (NLT)

“I baptize with water those who repent of their sins and turn to God. But someone is coming soon who is greater than I am - so much greater that I’m not worthy even to be his slave and carry his sandals.”
Matthew 3:11 (NLT)