**A new teaching with authority**

**TUESDAY JANUARY 12 (Mk 1,21-28)**

The sharp arrows mentioned in the Psalm are the words of Jesus the Lord, according to what Simeon's prophecy attests and the Letter to the Hebrews teaches: *My heart is stirred by a noble theme, as I sing my ode to the king. My tongue is the pen of a nimble scribe. You are the most handsome of men; fair speech has graced your lips, for God has blessed you forever. Gird your sword upon your hip, mighty warrior! In splendor and majesty ride on triumphant! In the cause of truth, meekness, and justice may your right hand show your wondrous deeds. Your arrows are sharp; peoples will cower at your feet; the king’s enemies will lose heart. Your throne, O God, stands forever; your royal scepter is a scepter for justice. You love justice and hate wrongdoing; therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness above your fellow kings. With myrrh, aloes, and cassia your robes are fragrant. From ivory-paneled palaces*[*\**](https://bible.usccb.org/bible/psalms/45#23045009-1)*stringed instruments bring you joy. Daughters of kings are your lovely wives; a princess arrayed in Ophir’s gold*[*\**](https://bible.usccb.org/bible/psalms/45#23045010-1)*comes to stand at your right hand. Listen, my daughter, and understand; pay me careful heed. Forget your people and your father’s house,*[*\**](https://bible.usccb.org/bible/psalms/45#23045011-1)*that the king might desire your beauty. He is your lord; honor him, daughter of Tyre.Then the richest of the people will seek your favor with gifts. All glorious is the king’s daughter as she enters, her raiment threaded with gold; In embroidered apparel she is led to the king. The maids of her train are presented to the king. They are led in with glad and joyous acclaim; they enter the palace of the king. The throne of your fathers your sons will have; you shall make them princes through all the land. I will make your name renowned through all generations; thus nations shall praise you forever. (Ps 45 (44), 1-18).* The authority of Jesus is his Word that comes out of his mouth and tears the heart in two. After Jesus has spoken, man is no longer the same. Either he accepts the Word and saves himself or he rejects it and damns himself. But he knows he has rejected the Word of eternal life. This truth is thus announced in the Gospel according to Luke: *The child's father and mother were amazed at what was said about him; and Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, "Behold, this child is destined for the fall and rise of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be contradicted (and you yourself a sword will pierce) so that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed.*"*(Lk 2,33-35).* The Word of Jesus the Lord is a true double-edged sword: *Indeed, the word of God is living and effective, sharper than any two-edged sword, penetrating even between soul and spirit, joints and marrow, and able to discern reflections and thoughts of the heart. No creature is concealed from him, but everything is naked and exposed to the eyes of him to whom we must render an account. (Hb 4,12-13).* The Word of Jesus is like fire that enters the heart and burns it.

*Then they came to Capernaum, and on the sabbath he entered the synagogue and taught. The people were astonished at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority and not as the scribes. In their synagogue was a man with an unclean spirit; he cried out, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are - the Holy One of God!" Jesus rebuked him and said, "Quiet! Come out of him!" The unclean spirit convulsed him and with a loud cry came out of him. All were amazed and asked one another, "What is this? A new teaching with authority. He commands even the unclean spirits and they obey him." His fame spread everywhere throughout the whole region of Galilee.*

The Word of Jesus is true Word of God. He commands the impure spirit and it must go out, be silent, go. People see immediate obedience and make a difference with any other teacher they are in contact with. Nobody speaks with authority like Him. Nobody commands impure spirits and obeyed instantly. Truly Jesus is the Different from every other man. Today it is precisely this difference that is either denied or hidden or not sufficiently proclaimed, announced. We are afraid to cry out that Jesus is the Different, because He is true God as well as true man. The world is saved by Christ Jesus preached in its full truth. A Christ without his truth is of no use to the world. Christ without truth makes the Church without truth.

Mother of the Redemption, Angels, Saints, let us preach Christ in full truth.