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God has spoken to man in every dispensation of time.
 God speaks to us today by the written word.

One cannot answer a question or settle a
 discussion unless a
 Standard of AUTHORITY
 is accepted by all concerned parties.

A U T H O R I T Y

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Isaiah 1:17-20

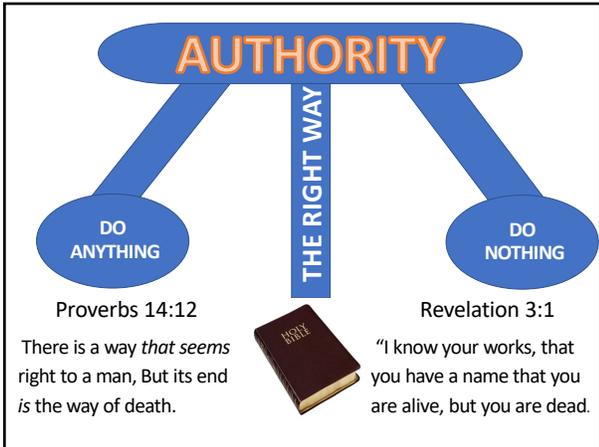
Learn to do good; Seek justice, Rebuke the oppressor;
 Defend the fatherless, Plead for the widow.

"Come now, and let us reason together," Says the LORD,

"Though your sins are like scarlet, They shall be as white as snow; Though they are red like crimson, They shall be as wool. ¹⁹ If you are willing and obedient, You shall eat the good of the land; ²⁰ But if you refuse and rebel, You shall be devoured by the sword"; For the mouth of the LORD has spoken.

A U T H O R I T Y

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4

AUTHORITY IS NEEDED IN ALL AREAS OF SOCIETY!

- Many have and do abuse their authority. (i.e. police officers, governments, preachers, elders, bible class teachers). Many under authority (subjects of authority) don't always accept the rule of those in authority, thus we have the problems of division and conflict.
- What about the need for BIBLE authority in ALL areas of spiritual things?

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GOD IS THE SOURCE OF ALL AUTHORITY

Authority comes from God because He is our Creator

(Gen. 1:1) In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

and God expresses His authority through His SON.

(Heb. 1:1-2) God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, ² has in these last days spoken to us by *His* Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds;

6

New Testament "AUTHORITY" is not based on:

- ❖ Self

Jeremiah 10:23 (NKJV)
²³ O LORD, I know the way of man *is* not in himself; *It is* not in man who walks to direct his own steps.
- ❖ Religious writings.

Matthew 15:9 (NKJV)
⁹ *And in vain they worship Me, Teaching as doctrines the commandments of men."*
- ❖ Leaders in a church

Acts 20:30 (NKJV)
³⁰ Also from among yourselves men will rise up, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after themselves.
- ❖ Preachers and false teachers

2 Corinthians 11:13 (NKJV)
¹³ For such *are* false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into apostles of Christ.

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New Testament "AUTHORITY" is not based on:

- ❖ Self-appointed authority like Diotrophese

3 John 9 (NKJV)
⁹ I wrote to the church, but Diotrephes, who loves to have the preeminence among them, does not receive us.

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AUTHORITY IS THE FOUNDATION ON WHICH LAW AND ORDER REST.
Colossians 3:17

And whatever you do in word or deed, *do* all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.

WITHOUT "AUTHORITY" CHAOS RULES.
 EACH MAN DOES WHAT IS RIGHT IN THEIR OWN EYES

Judges 17:6

In those days *there* was no king in Israel; everyone did *what* was right in his own eyes.

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CHRIST HAS ALL AUTHORITY AND THE POWER TO GIVE AUTHORITY
IN ALL AREAS!

Matthew 28:18–20

¹⁸ And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. ¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, *even* to the end of the age.” Amen.

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AUTHORITY DEFINED:

1. **au•thor•i•ty** \ə-ˈthā-r-ə-tē, ə-, -ˈthōr-\ *noun*
 plural **-ties** [Middle English *au•torite*, from Anglo-French *au•torité*, from Latin *au•toritat-*, *au•toritas* opinion, decision, power, from *au•tor*] 13th century
 (1): a citation (as from a book or file) used in defense or support
 (2): the source from which the citation is drawn
 (3): a conclusive statement or set of statements (as an official decision of a court)
 (4): a decision taken as a precedent
 (5): TESTIMONY
 a: power to influence or command thought, opinion, or behavior
 b: freedom granted by one in authority: RIGHT
 c: persons in command *specifically*: GOVERNMENT
 d: a governmental agency or corporation to administer a revenue-producing public enterprise (the transit *authority*)
 > **synonym** see INFLUENCE, POWER



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AUTHORITY DEFINED:

1. **exousia** (ἐξουσία, 1849) denotes “authority” (from the impersonal verb *exesti*, “it is lawful”). From the meaning of “leave or permission,” or liberty of doing as one pleases. It passed to that of “the ability or strength with which one is endowed,” then to that of the “power of authority,” the right to exercise power.

W.E. Vines

Matthew 21:23

²³ Now when He came into the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people confronted Him as He was teaching, and said, “By what authority are You doing these things? And who gave You this authority?”



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AUTHORITY DEFINED:
Matthew 21:23-27

The **need** for authority is: "By what authority?"

The **source** for authority is : "Who gave you this authority?"

The **difference** in authority is : "From heaven or from men?"

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AUTHORITY DEFINED:

Thayer's Greek English Lexicon gives these definitions:

1. "Power of choice, liberty of doing as one pleases; leave or permission"
2. "Physical and mental power; the ability or strength with which one is endued, which he either possesses or exercises"
3. "The power of authority (influence) and of right: Matt. 21:23"

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AUTHORITY DEFINED:

TO HAVE POWER OVER SOMETHING

Mark 1:27

²⁷ Then they were all amazed, so that they questioned among themselves, saying, "What is this? What new doctrine *is* this? For with authority He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey Him."

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John 16:12–15 (NKJV)

¹² “I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear *them* now. ¹³ However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own *authority*, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come. ¹⁴ He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare *it* to you. ¹⁵ All things that the Father has are Mine. Therefore I said that He will take of Mine and declare *it* to you.

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1 Corinthians 2:13–16 (NKJV)

¹³ These things we also speak, not in words which man’s wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual. ¹⁴ But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know *them*, because they are spiritually discerned. ¹⁵ But he who is spiritual judges all things, yet he himself is *rightly* judged by no one. ¹⁶ For “*who has known the mind of the LORD* that he may instruct Him?” But we have the mind of Christ.

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Pattern is defined as:

- a model or design used as a guide.
- a set of instructions to be followed
- an example for others to follow.

Hebrews 8:5–6

⁵ who serve the copy and shadow of the heavenly things, as Moses was divinely instructed when he was about to make the tabernacle. For He said, “*See that you make all things according to the pattern shown you on the mountain.*” ⁶ But now He has obtained a more excellent ministry, inasmuch as He is also Mediator of a better covenant, which was established on better promises.

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1 Timothy 1:16 (NKJV)
 16 However, for this reason I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus Christ might show all longsuffering, as a pattern to those who are going to believe on Him for everlasting life.

2 Timothy 1:13 (NKJV)
 13 Hold fast the pattern of sound words which you have heard from me, in faith and love which are in Christ Jesus.

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WORDS WE MUST DEFINE AND UNDERSTAND IN THIS STUDY:

Commands:	Collective Body:
Examples:	Individual:
Inferences:	Work of the Church
Necessary Inferences:	Worship of the Church
expediency:	
Incidentals:	Words You would like to discuss:
Aids:	a.
	b.
Additions:	c.

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Individual -vs- Collective Authority

The New Testament makes a distinction between what an individual is authorized to do and not do vs what the collective body "the Church" can do.

FOR EXAMPLE:
 The Church is to "come together", 1 Cor 11: 18, 20, 33 to observe the Lord's Super.
 The individual is a part of that assembly and acts an individual when they examine themselves.
 1 Cor. 11:28.

FOR EXAMPLE:
 The Church takes the collective actions to collect funds. The individual determines for himself how much. 1 Cor. 16:2.

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Those who reject authority are considered to be “presumptuous and self-willed”.
 2 Peter 2:10 (NKJV)
 and especially those who walk according to the flesh in the lust of uncleanness and despise authority. *They are* presumptuous, self-willed. They are not afraid to speak evil of dignitaries,

We must have Bible Authority for all things related to spiritual matters. Failure to walk by authority denies the all sufficiency of the Holy Scriptures.

A U T H O R I T Y

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A U T H O R I T Y

IS BASED ON THE BIBLE

The Bible is right even when men are wrong.

READ AND STUDY YOUR BIBLE DAILY

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A CLASS STUDY OF THE NEED FOR AUTHORITY FOR ALL THINGS DONE AND TAUGHT BY THE NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH

A U T H O R I T Y

CLASS TAUGHT BY ANDY ADDISON EVERYONE IS ENCOURAGED TO STUDY AND TAKE PART IN CLASS THIS MORNING

READ AND STUDY YOUR BIBLE DAILY

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