1Thess #30

Respecting the authority of the Word is mandatory for spiritual growth.

Open back up today in 1Thess chapter two.

Keep in mind this Saturday afternoon I will have a short Christmas message you can enjoy with family and friends – there will be no Sunday message.

1Thes 2:5 For we never came with flattering speech, as you know, nor with a pretext for greed— God is our witness—

[1Th 2:6](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1th/2/6/s_1113006) nor did we seek honor from people, either from you or from others, though we could have asserted our authority as apostles of Christ.

The Apostle Paul did not assert an aggressive or heavy hand of authority, even though he was ordained by GOD to be the Apostle to the Gentiles.

[1Th 2:7](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1th/2/7/s_1113007) But we proved to be gentle among you. As a nursing *mother* tenderly cares for her own children,

[1Th 2:8](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1th/2/8/s_1113008) in the same way we had a fond affection for you and were delighted to share with you not only the gospel of God, but also our own lives, because you had become very dear to us.

The Apostle Paul is plainly speaking from a heart of love and compassion, real fellowship for the Bels at Thessalonica.

[1Th 2:9](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1th/2/9/s_1113009) For you recall, brothers *and sisters,* our labor and hardship: *it was by* working night and day so as not to be a burden to any of you, *that* we proclaimed to you the gospel of God.

As I already mentioned to you this was a point where the Apostle Paul was getting ready to drop his tent making trade and focus full time on apostleship.

He had always been able to produce finances for himself and those travelling with him without putting a huge burden on new churches.

Yet, you can not operate at full capacity developing churches and being a pastor-teacher if you have to work full time elsewhere to support yourself.

Working two jobs is a young man’s game and it sets a church leader up for failure and physical problems.

Any distraction from deep study will affect that pastor-teacher.

[1Th 2:10](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1th/2/10/s_1113010) You are witnesses, and *so is* God, *of* how devoutly and rightly and blamelessly we behaved toward you believers;

/[1Th 2:11](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1th/2/11/s_1113011) just as you know how *we were* **exhorting** and **encouraging** and **imploring** each one of you as a father *would* his own children,\

The Apostle Paul is listing some of the basic concepts that all pastor-teachers and really any leader should display.

[1Th 2:12](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1th/2/12/s_1113012) so that you would walk in a manner worthy of the God who calls you into His own kingdom and glory.

/*Parakaleō-* exhorting, counseling, walking alongside in prayer and giving information or instruction (firmly and gently) so as to assist you.

Written in a present tense, so as to keep doing this. Sometimes you firmly guide or inform, sometimes you gently teach or instruct.\

PARA-KA-LAYO, means you keep guiding, teaching and using firm or gentle techniques to comfort and assist the Bel.

The father or mother is used as examples of how leadership should be viewed.

The call for parents is a higher calling! Because now you are called to guide, instruct, correct or discipline while still allowing that child to develop their own personality.

/*Paramytheomai-* encouraging, bring calm assurance through instruction, clear admonishment or clear guidance.

Written in the present tense, to keep on doing this. Teach or admonish for the purpose of correction or calm assurance and encouragement.\

PARA-MOO-THAY-O-MY, means to encourage but the method may be to admonish in a strong fashion. Teach and speak truth with the end result of calm assurance.

Whether you were corrected or disciplined, or just given solid instruction. If it is accurate there is a sense of relief or calm assurance because now you know something…you are in tune to truth which will assist you in the future.

/*Martyromai-* imploring, with a legal connotations of being an honest witness before GOD. To lay yourself out for the sake of truth under the eyes of GOD.

Written in a present tense, you keep on putting yourself out there for the sake of truth. This is from a root word we get the English term – martyr.\

MAR-TOUR-A-MY, this is taken from a root word, where we get the word martyr from. Someone willing to lay their reputation and their life on the line for a cause – in this case TRUTH (BD)!

This was a term for a witness in a courtroom, someone who is honest and presenting facts sworn in front GOD.

Every leader, especially a pastor-teacher, is called to do their very best to present the truth of God’s word and God’s plan.

The pastor-teacher can be viewed as a tour guide, a chef or a waiter – no matter what the analogy, that pastor is ultimately under the authority of the WORD through the power of God the HS.

Scripture is clear on responsibility - From everyone who has been given much, much will be demanded; (Luk 12:48)

 REPEAT

Rejecting the authority of the Bible begins with rejecting accurate teaching of the word.

If you believe you have found a Bible teacher who has the hand of GOD on his messages then you have to submit to that authority.

/The first principle we note in the creation of humanity is an established authority. Free will (freedom) given at creation means personal responsibility. The woman fell because she rejected authority (Gen 3). She failed under two principles of authority. One was a spiritual principle, the other a temporal.\

The spiritual principle: was the authority of the Word as taught by the Lord Jesus Christ every day in the garden.

The WORD is always the ultimate authority because it is the mind of Christ.

The temporal principle: Authority of the man who was both the divinely commissioned ruler of the world, and therefore was at the height of the chain of command under GOD; The established chain of command in the household is the husband in leadership.

The reality is you can not cherry pick scripture or pick and choose when to follow the authority of the WORD. Ultimately GOD holds you accountable for all of it!

 REPEAT

The failure of the woman to accept the authority of the man is emphasized in 2 Timothy chapter 2.

/2Tim 2:11 **A woman must quietly receive instruction** with entire submissiveness. 12 But **I do not allow a woman to teach or to exercise authority over a man**, but to remain quiet.

In the realm of marriage as well as the office of pastor-teacher it is a male leadership role.\

TLJC did not choose any females for apostleship nor did the Apostles ever ordain a female pastor-teacher.

Women make great leaders and they handle authority well - it is simply GOD’s word that teaches in these two realms the woman will not hold authority.

/[1Ti 2:13](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1ti/2/13/s_1121013) For *it was* **Adam *who* was first created** and then Eve. 14And *it was* not Adam *who* was deceived, but **the woman was deceived** and became a wrongdoer.

Adam was held accountable because he was given the authority.\

Many Christians reject a pastor but ultimately they are rejecting God’s word.

If that pastor is diligently studying and teaching the word and is ordained by GOD - you ultimately are rejecting GOD not that pastor.

Go to the OT – Deuteronomy chapter 11.

When the people of Israel kept longing for a king like the Gentile nations had they were bucking against the authority of what God was teaching them;

/ 1Sa 8:7 And the LORD said to Samuel, “Listen to the voice of the people regarding all that they say to you, because **they have not rejected you, but they have rejected Me** from being King over them. 8 “Like all the deeds which they have done since the day that I brought them up from Egypt even to this day—in that **they have abandoned Me and served other gods**—so they are doing to you as well.\

Then the people of Israel did what all human nature leads us to do – pick the most attractive one of the bunch!

Saul was believed to be well over six feet tall and considered handsome.

In fact, some scholars believe Saul was about 6’ 5” and considered to be of impressive physical features.

Though King Saul had a few victories it turned out in the long run that he was a weak leader with many insecurities.

The nation of Israel was blessed and protected not because of King Saul – because they were God’s people.

This was an ongoing theme for the nation of Israel – keep in mind Israel represents the shadow of the CA Bel today. The soul of the individual Bel is often viewed from the history of the nation of Israel;

/Jer 7:23 “But this is what I commanded them, saying, ‘**Obey My voice, and I will be your God**, and you will be My people; and **you shall walk entirely in the way which I command you,** so that it may go well for you.’ 24 “Yet **they did not obey** or incline their ear, but **walked by *their own* advice *and* in the stubbornness of their evil hearts**, and they went backward and not forward.\

Don’t tell me after salvation that your free will decisions and what you do motivated by BD doesn’t matter!

Deuteronomy chapter eleven is very clear on following the authority of the word of GOD.

In Deuteronomy chapter ten, it shows us the writing of the Ten Commandments and the building of the Ark of the Covenant designed to hold the 10 commandments, Aaron’s rod and a sample of manna from heaven.

Then look at how chapter 11 opens;

/Deu 11:1 “You shall therefore **love the LORD your God**, and **always keep His directive,** His **statutes**, His **ordinances**, and His **commandments**.

Everything written in the Bible is designed for our benefit or instruction.\

Now jump down to verse 26.

There is nothing written in the Bible that God doesn’t want us to learn and benefit from.

Deu 11:26 “See, I am placing before you today a blessing and a curse:

/[Deu 11:27](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/deu/11/27/s_164027) **the blessing, if you listen to the commandments of the LORD your God,** which I am commanding you today;

Every dispensation has a standard of laws, commands or principles that were all culminated into the person and work of Jesus Christ.\

If you are walking in the new nature you are fulfilling all laws, commands and principles God called you to obey.

/[Deu 11:28](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/deu/11/28/s_164028) and **the curse, if you do not listen to the commandments** (*miṣvâ*)**of the LORD your God**, but turn aside from the way which I am commanding you today, by **following other gods** which you have not known.

Commands- Mosaic Law but also all commands or precepts set forth by God.\

MITS-VAH, did not always reference just Mosaic law. This was not always definitive of the singular LAW of Moses.

The whole word of God is a guideline and set of commands and precepts.

The choice becomes whether you will get off the fence and agree with the only source of truth or cherry pick that which you want to believe.

Look what the prophet Samuel told King Saul;

/1Sam 15:22 Samuel said, “Does the
LORD have as much delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices As in
obeying the voice of the LORD?
Behold, **to obey is better than a sacrifice**, *And* to **pay attention** is *better* than the fat of rams.

To be alert and perk up your ear in that direction.\

*Pay Attention, qāšaḇ -* (KA-SHAB) is the Hebrew verb meaning to be very alert, to pay great attention.

King Saul was a Bel who faded over time, he became more in tune with the cosmic system then the word of GOD and he died the sin unto death.

King Saul brought misery and confusion into his life and it touched the nation of Israel as well.

Weak or chaotic leadership always touches those under its authority.

/[1Sa 15:23](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1sa/15/23/s_251023) “For rebellion is *as reprehensible as* **the sin of divination** (*qesem)*, **And insubordination** (*pāṣar)* is *as reprehensible as* false religion and idolatry. Since you
have rejected the word of the LORD, **He has also rejected you** from *being* king.”

Compared to the use of black magic under the BAAL system and a hard heart of arrogance (unteachable).\

KESS-UM, means the evil and dark magic under the BAAL system.

POTS-AIR, points to deep arrogance that leads to a hardness of heart.

Rejecting the authority of the WORD always leads to the same path after a period of time.

The arrogant Bel hides behind the lie that they reject the pastor but remain obedient to the WORD.

That is a misconception – it is impossible if the pastor is teaching truth to reject the man and not reject the message.

The accuracy of the word being taught makes us accept the message and realize the man is simply a tool used by GOD.

We don’t focus on the personality and flaws of the man - we focus on the message.

/Ex 16:8 And Moses said, “*This will happen* when the LORD gives you meat to eat in the evening, and bread to the full in the morning; for the LORD hears your grumblings which you grumble against Him. And what are we? **Your grumblings are not against us but against the LORD**.”\

If you are bucking the authority of a good pastor-teacher, do not be fooled, you are bucking the authority of GOD.

Remember, when we push hard enough against the plan of GOD we get what the cosmic system has to offer us.

/Psa 81:11 “But **My people did not listen to My voice**, And Israel **did not
obey Me**. 12 “So **I gave them over to the stubbornness** of their heart, To walk
by their own plans.

 (Rom 1:18-32) \

God will eventually give you what you want, HE eventually gives you that which you keep pushing for.

The Apostle Paul makes that clear in Romans chapter one – we can be turned over to our OSN , the depravity of our own lust patterns.

Keep something in mind if you are in a position of authority and you know you are applying God’s word to the best of your ability.

Think about what they did to our LORD.

/Mat 10:24 “A **disciple is not above his teacher,** nor a slave above his master. 25 “It is enough for the disciple that he may become like his teacher, and the slave like his master. **If they have called the head of the house Beelzebul, how much more *will they insult* the members of his household!\**

/[1Th 2:11](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1th/2/11/s_1113011) just as you know how *we were* **exhorting** and **encouraging** and **imploring** each one of you as a father *would* his own children,

When the WORD is being accurately taught from a prepared pastor you hold the responsibility to honor that teaching.\