

Review

What are two sides of authority?

- The right or power to rule
- To act by the instruction and/or approval of the rightful ruler

If we're concerned about authority, we're going to be concerned with...

- God's rule and His instruction and His law
- What I must do and what I can do



Review

Do we by our nature need rule and instruction and law?

- Yes. Jeremiah 10:23. Proverbs 14:12

What is the result of disrespect for authority?

- Spiritual ruin

Is the need for authority universal in all areas of life?

- Yes.

Is there a universal answer to the need for authority

- Yes.



Review

Is there an ultimate source of authority? (ultimate: primary, first, beginning)

- Yes.

What are the two possibilities of that ultimate source of authority?

- Divine or Human. Matthew 21:23-27

What is the implication if divine?

- We need to obey it. Matthew 21:23-27

Review

Who is the ultimate source of authority?

- God
- The Bible says so. For example, Romans 13:1; 1 Corinthians 15:24-28; Matthew 28:18

What attributes of God relate to Him being the ultimate source?

- Eternal, self-existent
- Creator
- Sustainer
- Omniscient
- Omnipotent
- Omnipresent
- Perfect in holiness and righteousness
- All-truth



Review

If God is the ultimate source of authority, then what does that mean for me?

- God alone has inherent power/right to command all
- Other authority is delegated – “to entrust to the care or management of another; commit; assign”
- I ought to have the utmost respect for His authority, and I’m going to want to know His expectations of me



Roadmap

- ✓ What is authority, and how is the word used in the Scriptures?
- ✓ We need authority in our lives
- ✓ God is the ultimate authority
- **What our source and standard of authority is not**
- How is God's authority expressed to man
- Respecting God's silence
- Using the inductive method to determine the will of God
- Determining God's will through commands, statements, examples, and necessary conclusions
- The Scriptures give us a pattern
- Generic and Specific authority
- Expediency
- Examples of respect and disrespect of authority
- Improper attitudes and assaults upon authority



Lesson 4: What the Source and Standard of Authority is Not

We saw in lesson 3 that there must be an ultimate source of authority, and that ultimate source of authority is God.

In lesson 4, let us examine some of the sources or standards deemed authoritative by some for their religious teachings and practices. We want to see that these are not the source or standard of authority for religious teaching and practice.

By “source,” we mean origin

By “standard,” we mean the authoritative rule to follow and measure by



Old Testament practices are not our source of authority today

Why not?

- ❑ For a specific people for a specific time
 - ❑ Deuteronomy 5:1-3
 - ❑ Galatians 3:19
- ❑ The law of Moses was only a shadow
 - ❑ Hebrews 10:1ff
- ❑ The old covenant was removed when Christ died on the cross
 - ❑ Ephesians 2:14-16
 - ❑ Colossians 2:14-17
- ❑ If going to keep some, then bound to keep all
 - ❑ Galatians 5:3

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Examples

- Tithing

- Instruments of music in worship

- Divorce law of Deuteronomy 24

- Sabbath

- In the early days of the church, not recognizing that the law of Moses was no longer binding led to problems in the church

 - Acts 15:1, 24

 - Galatians

- Problems still continue today

 - How important then is to recognize this truth?