

Review

What are two sides of authority?

- The R_____ or P_____ to rule or command
- To _____ 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 L_____
- What I M_____ do and what I C_____ do

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 5: God's Authority Expressed to Man

Every man needs authority and rule in His life.

Although men look to other sources of authority for their religious teachings, beliefs, and practices, God is the ultimate source of authority.

In this lesson, we want to answer this question:

How does God express His rule, His commands, His instructions – that is, His will – to man?



❑ Last week:

- ❑ In these last days, God has made His will known by speaking to us by His Son
 - ❑ Through the words that He spoke on Earth
 - ❑ But since Jesus would not remain on Earth forever, He promised to send the Holy Spirit to His apostles to guide them into all truth and bring to remembrance all things He had taught them
 - ❑ The things the apostles spoke were authoritative

❑ Tonight:

- ❑ The apostles claimed their words were authoritative – by the authority of Christ. Their claim was confirmed.
- ❑ They wrote the inspired words for all who would come later.
- ❑ The written, NT Scriptures contain the authoritative will of Christ.

- ❑ Tonight

- ❑ Thus we see the divine chain of **authority**.

- ❑ God, Christ, Holy Spirit, Apostles, Scriptures

- ❑ The qualities of the written Scriptures are consistent with their **authority**.

- ❑ To go beyond the written Scriptures is to go beyond the **authority of Christ**.

Did the Apostles Claim Their Words were Authoritative?

- Yes
- 1 Corinthians 2:7-13
 - The words of God which the Holy Spirit teaches
- 1 Corinthians 14:37
 - The commandments of the Lord
- 2 Corinthians 10:8; 13:10
 - The authority the Lord gave
- 2 Thessalonians 2:13
 - The word of the Lord
- 2 Thessalonians 3:14
 - Must obey

Was the Apostles' Claim Confirmed?

- ❑ Hebrews 2:4
- ❑ Mark 16:20
- ❑ Acts 2:23
- ❑ 2 Corinthians 12:12

God confirmed the authority of their message through accompanying signs

God's will was spoken in these last days not only through the words Jesus spoke, but also through the words the apostles spoke

The Apostles & Their Teaching

- ❑ God confirmed the authority of their message through accompanying signs
- ❑ But the apostles would not remain on earth forever. They wrote those inspired words for all who would come after them

The Apostles & Their Teaching

□ Ephesians 3:1-5

Christ

Holy Spirit



Paul



Wrote

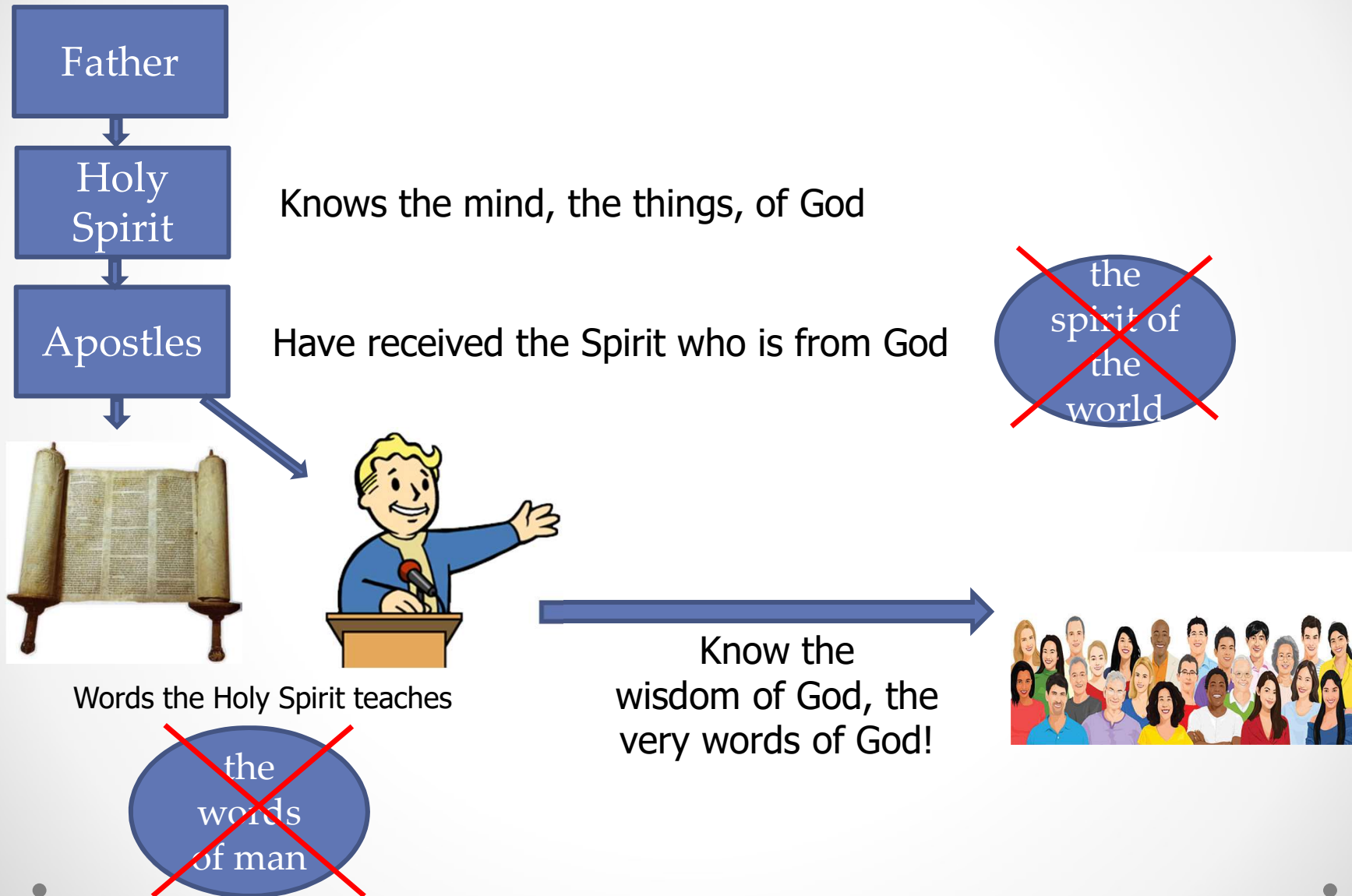


Read & Understand



The Apostles & Their Teaching

□ 2 Corinthians 2:4-13



The Apostles & Their Teaching

□ 2 Corinthians 5:18-21

Father



Jesus
Christ



Apostles



God has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ;
has given the apostles the ministry of reconciliation

The word of reconciliation



Be reconciled
to God!



The Apostles & Their Teaching

- ❑ God confirmed the authority of their message through accompanying signs
- ❑ But the apostles would not remain on earth forever. They wrote those inspired words for all who would come after them
- ❑ 2 Peter 1:12-15
 - ❑ Write → Remind → Will have this after Peter is gone
- ❑ 2 Peter 3:15-16
 - ❑ Apostolic epistles called Scripture
- ❑ Colossians 4:16
 - ❑ Applicability extended beyond the original recipients
- ❑ 2 Thessalonians 2:15
 - ❑ Stand fast, hold the words – whether spoken or written

The written, New Testament Scriptures are authoritative.

They contain the will of Jesus Christ.

The Divine Chain of Authority

- ✓ God gave all authority to Christ.
- ✓ Christ sent the Holy Spirit to guide the apostles into all truth.
- ✓ The apostles spoke the words which the Holy Spirit teaches.
- ✓ The apostles and prophets wrote down those words for the benefit of all.
 - ✓ Those words are authoritative.

The Divine Chain of Authority

- ❑ The divine chain of authority is described by the apostles in their writings

- ❑ Ephesians 3:1-5
- ❑ 1 Corinthians 2:7-13
- ❑ 2 Peter 1:16-21
- ❑ 1 John 1:1-4
- ❑ 2 Corinthians 5:18-20

The Qualities of the Written Scriptures

- ❑ These qualities are consistent with the authority of the Scriptures
- ❑ 2 Timothy 3:16-17
 - ❑ God-breathed
 - ❑ Will make us complete
 - ❑ Complete = 95%?....or 100%?
 - ❑ Will thoroughly equip us for every good work
 - ❑ Thoroughly, not mostly
 - ❑ Every, not some or most
 - ❑ Good, not just any
 - ❑ Does this not mean they are just what we need, nothing more and nothing less?
 - ❑ Compare with Deuteronomy 29:29

The Qualities of the Written Scriptures

- ❑ These qualities are consistent with the authority of the Scriptures
- ❑ Luke 1:1-4
 - ❑ Know with certainty
- ❑ John 20:30-31
 - ❑ Know and have life in Him
- ❑ 1 John 1:3, 4
 - ❑ Have fellowship with the Father, the Son, and his children
 - ❑ Have full joy
- ❑ 1 John 5:13
 - ❑ That you may know that you have eternal life
 - ❑ That you may continue to believe