

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 6: Respecting the Silence of the Scriptures

- ❑ The objective of this lesson is to recognize the need to respect God's silence, i.e. the silence of the Scriptures.
- ❑ Silence
 - ❑ Means where God hasn't spoken
 - ❑ "which He had not commanded them"
 - ❑ "gave no such commandment"
 - ❑ "spoke nothing concerning"
- ❑ We know God's will by *what He has revealed*
- ❑ The Old Testament teaches respect for God's silence
- ❑ The New Testament teaches respect for God's silence
- ❑ We will see cases where acting upon God's silence was not pleasing to God

Two Attitudes

1. Silence is permission, consent

“Where does the Bible say not to?”

2. Silence does not give permission or consent

“What does the Bible say?”

The right attitude is #2. This is the attitude we see by precept and example in the Bible.

To presume to do something is to do a thing without right or permission

Last Week

- ❑ We know God's will ***by what is revealed***
 - ❑ Unless God reveals it, you don't know the thoughts of God
- ❑ In the Old Testament, respect for God's silence was taught by commands and examples
 - ❑ We looked at several examples where Moses demonstrated this attitude: I will not act until I know what the will of God is on the matter
 - ❑ This demonstrates a respect for God's silence

In the Old Testament, God's silence was not to be interpreted as consent

❑ Leviticus 10:1-3

- ❑ “which He had not commanded them”
- ❑ NIV: “unauthorized fire”
- ❑ Dare we say, “But where did He say not to”?

❑ 1 Chronicles 13:1-14; 15:1-13

- ❑ Correct method? Exodus 25:14, 15
 - ❑ Dare we say, “But God did not say “do not transport it by another method or by this method, and this method, and this method””?
- ❑ Similarly, who are the correct persons? Deuteronomy 10:8; 31:9
 - ❑ Could we ask, “But where did God say no other tribe?”

❑ God's silence was prohibitive. God's silence did not give permission.

In the Old Testament, God's silence was not to be interpreted as consent

- ❑ 2 Samuel 7:1-7

 - ❑ 1 Chronicles 17:6

- ❑ Jeremiah 7:28-31; 32:35

- ❑ 2 Chronicles 26:16-18

 - ❑ "It is not for you...but for the priests"

- ❑ God's silence was prohibitive. God's silence did not give permission.

The New Testament also teaches respect for God's silence

- ❑ Matthew 28:20
- ❑ 1 Peter 4:11
 - ❑ New English Translation: “let it be with God's words”
 - ❑ “Utterances” vs. silence
- ❑ 1 Corinthians 4:6
- ❑ 2 John 9
- ❑ Revelation 22:18-19
- ❑ Colossians 3:17