

# Review

What are two sides of authority?

- The R\_\_\_\_\_ or P\_\_\_\_\_ to rule or command
- To A\_\_\_ by the instruction and/or approval of the rightful ruler
- If you have not been given the A\_\_\_\_\_ Y to do a thing, then you don't have the R\_\_\_\_\_ to do it. You may have the P\_\_\_\_\_ (as in the ability), but that does not mean you have the R\_\_\_\_\_.

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



# Two Weeks Ago

- ❑ We began this lesson: Harmonize All the Facts
  - ❑ Recognize that determining the will of God involves gathering all the facts from the Bible and harmonizing them.
- ❑ We must take all of what God has said that relates to a subject and unite all of it in harmony
- ❑ This method is not unique to understanding the Bible
  - ❑ Jesus taught this method
  - ❑ The apostles used this method

# Tonight

- ❑ Complete the lesson on harmonizing all the facts
- ❑ Note some requirements and handling difficulty
- ❑ Examples of not harmonizing all the facts

# When gathering the facts & harmonizing them...

- ❑ The facts must be understood
  - ❑ John 20:9
- ❑ The facts need to be accepted as truth
- ❑ Even if the harmonized facts present a difficulty in our mind, that does not prove the conclusion wrong
  - ❑ Matthew 22:23-33
  - ❑ Note two problems:
    - ❑ Did not understand the Scriptures
    - ❑ Did not understand the power of God
  - ❑ Other examples?

## Gathering all the facts from the Bible includes

- Statements, declarations, commands
- Approved examples
- Necessary conclusions

# Baptism: Gathering all the facts & harmonizing them

- With all the Scriptures, we could learn the answers to the following questions:
  
- Who is a candidate for baptism
- What baptism is; the mode
- In what medium baptism is performed
- What baptism accomplishes
- When one should be baptized

# What's wrong here?

## Ephesians 2:8-10

Therefore, we are saved by grace and faith only.

Have you not read James 2:24, among other verses?

## John 3:16

Therefore, we are saved at the point of belief, without or before baptism

Have you not read 1 Peter 3:21, among other verses?



- ❑ Truth does not contradict truth
- ❑ We must take all of what God has said
- ❑ We must harmonize those facts in order to come to the right conclusion
- ❑ John 8:32

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## Lesson 8: Determining God's Will through Statements, Commands, Approved Examples, and Necessary Conclusions

- ❑ The Scriptures are our final authority. All facts from the Scriptures must be harmonized to determine what we must do and what we can do.
  
- ❑ **Objective of this lesson:**
  - ❑ Learn that statements, commands, approved examples, and necessary conclusions from the Scriptures should be used to determine what God has authorized. The Bible teaches this method.

# Examples of these modes of communication

## Statements

Acts 10:35

Hebrews 9:27

Hebrews 1:1-2

## Commands

Both positive and negative; do's and do-not's

Acts 2:38

Ephesians 4:29