

# Review

- What are two sides of authority?
  - The right or power to rule or command
  - Acting by the instruction and/or approval of the rightful ruler
- When we are concerned with God's authority, we are concerned with what?
  - God's rule, His instruction, His Law
  - What I must do and what I can do
- Does God's silence give consent?
  - No
- Following the inductive method, what two things are required?
  - Gather all the facts
  - Harmonize them

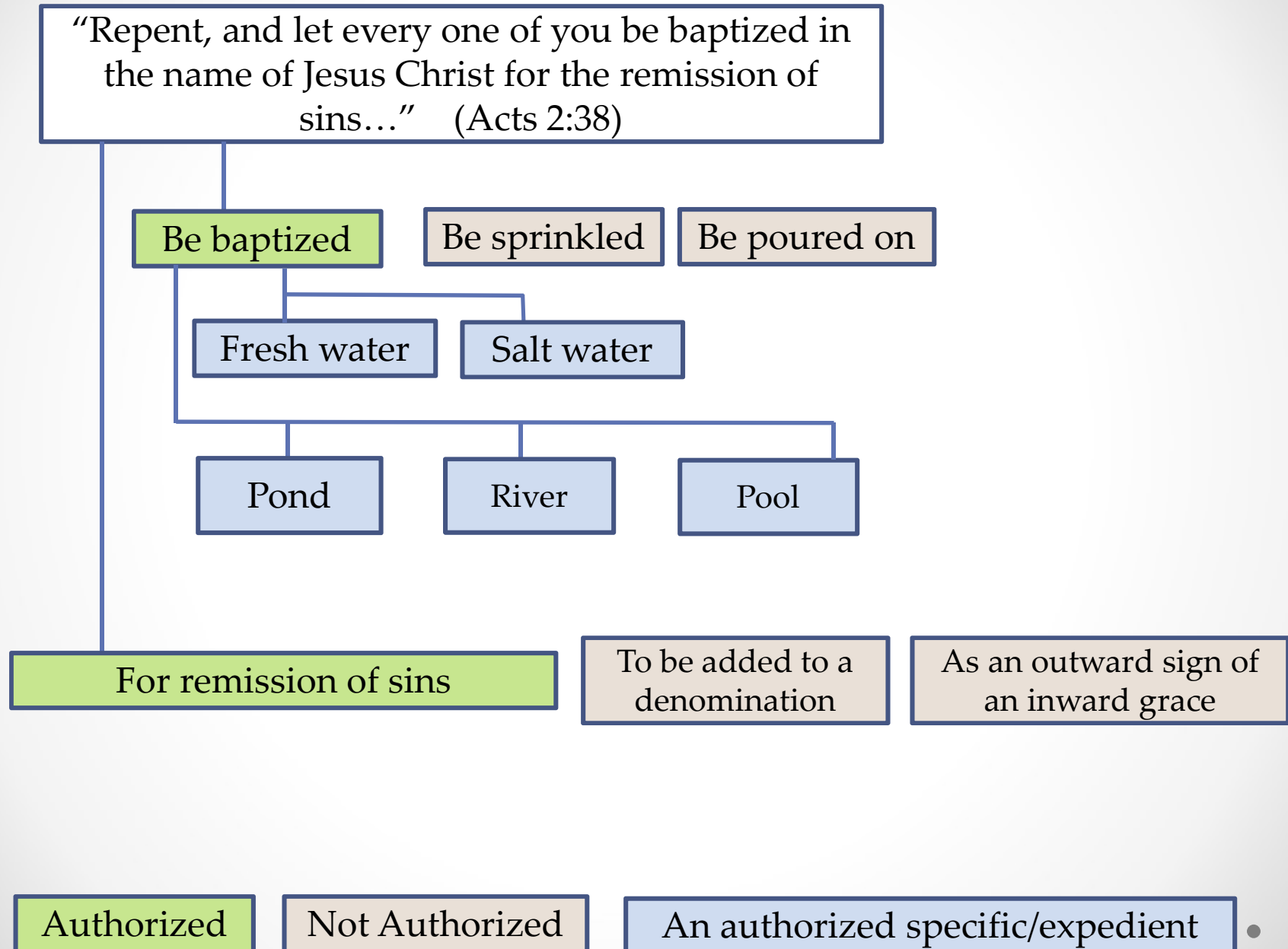
# Review

- Name four things included in gathering all the facts.
  - Statements
  - Commands
  - Approved Examples
  - Necessary Conclusions
- When God's word is specific, do we have the right to make it generic?
  - No.
- When God's word is generic, does it authorize the specifics of that generic?
  - Yes.
- What does expedient mean?
  - Helpful or profitable in expediting or carrying out a command
- An expedient must first be what?
  - Lawful

# Roadmap

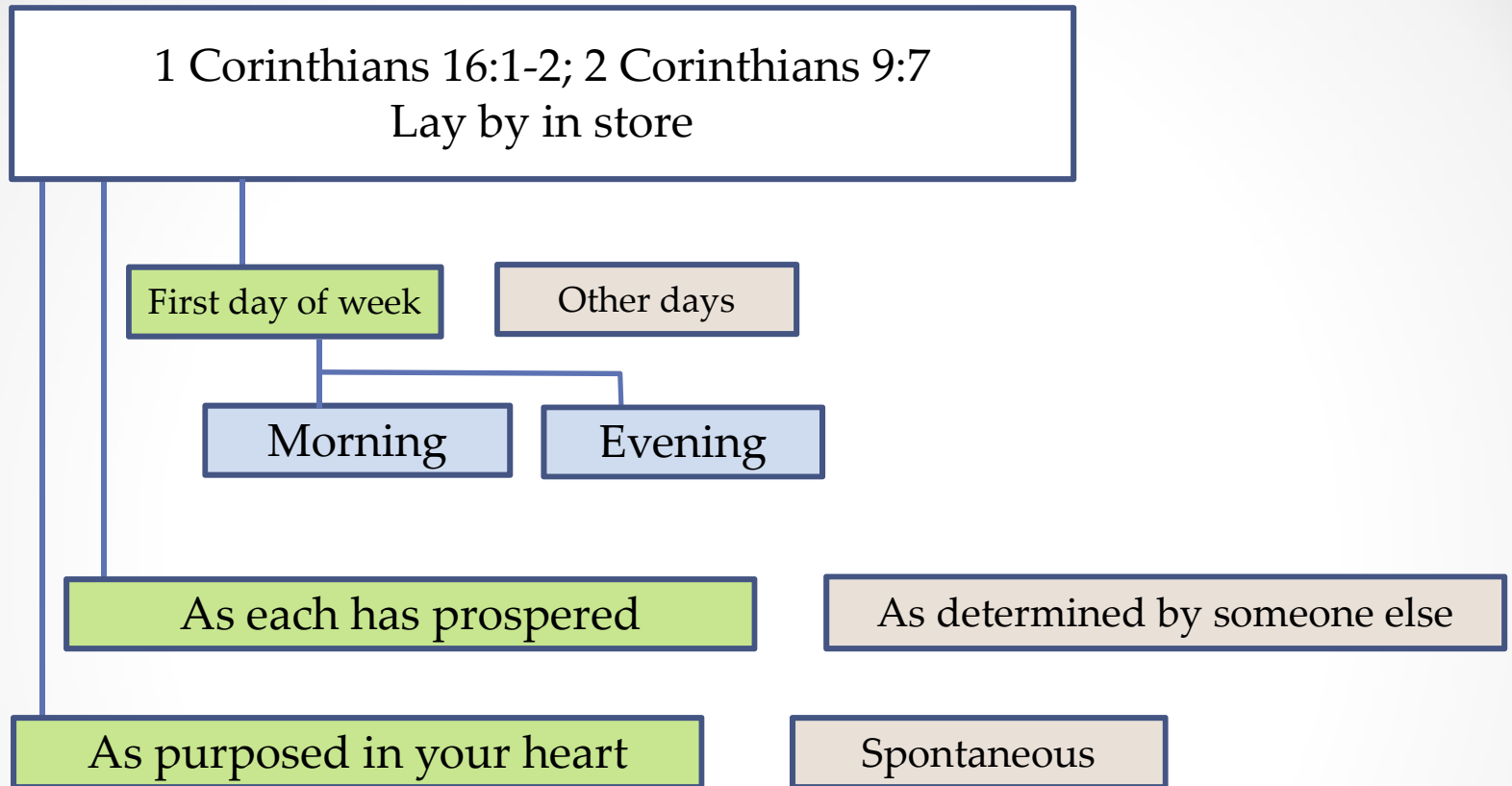
- ✓ What is authority, and how is the word used in the Scriptures?
- ✓ We need authority in our lives
- ✓ God is the ultimate authority
- ✓ What our source and standard of authority is not
- ✓ How is God's authority expressed to man
- ✓ Respecting God's silence
- ✓ Using the inductive method to determine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

# Generic & Specific



Authorized Thing	The authorized thing is a specific in this general class	Therefore, these <b>not authorized</b> (other specifics of the general class)	The authorized thing is generic as to:	Therefore, these specifics/expedients <b>authorized</b>
<b>Free-will giving (1 Corinthians 16:1-2)</b>	Means for putting together a collection	Business, farm, solicit, car wash, etc.	Medium of funds	Cash, check, coins, etc.
			Collection method	Basket, pass, walk to, etc.
	Day of week	Days other than first day of the week	Time of day	Morning, evening, etc.

# Generic & Specific



- **Authorized**    **Not Authorized**    **An authorized specific/expedient** •

## Lesson 10: Expediency

### ❑ Objective of the lesson:

❑ Men sometimes want to justify doing a thing religiously by saying it is an expedient. Let us understand the role of expediency in determining what *is* and what *is not* authorized.

❑ For example, some may misuse it this way:

❑ “It is expedient to sprinkle this disabled person instead of baptize them”

❑ “It is expedient to organize a missionary society in order to spread the gospel more effectively”

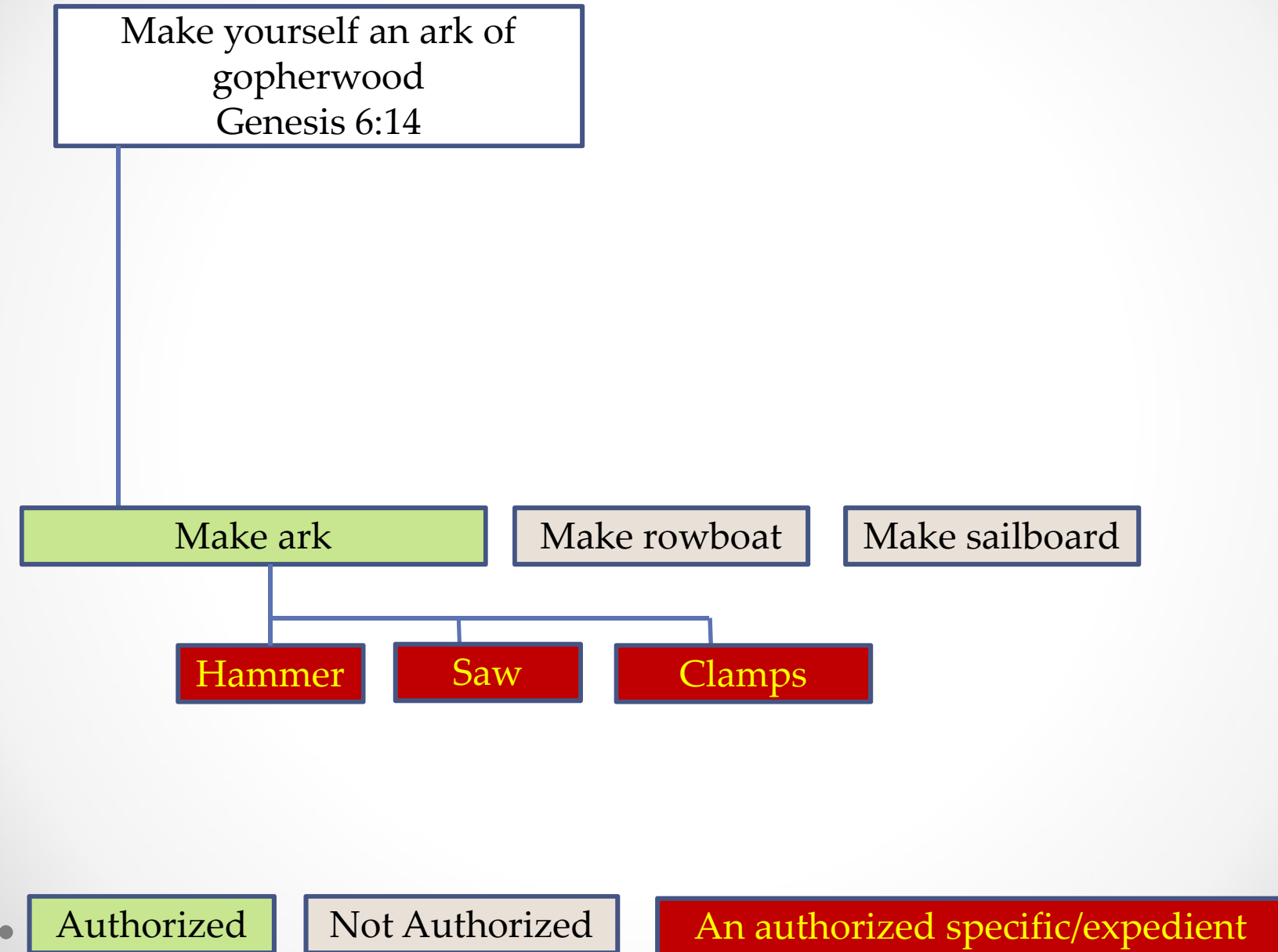
# Review of Expedients

- Expediency is a Biblical concept
- Key idea: Helpful or profitable in expediting or carrying out a command
- Bible truths regarding expedients
- Examples of expedients
- Examples that are not expedients



Authorized Thing	The authorized thing is a specific in this general class	Therefore, these <b>not authorized</b> (other specifics of the general class)	The authorized thing is generic as to:	Therefore, these specifics/ <b>expedients authorized</b>
Make ark Genesis 6:14	Vessel	Row boat, sail boat, etc.	Tools	Hammer, nails, bailing wire, etc.

# Generic & Specific, Expedients



Authorized Thing	The authorized thing is a specific in this general class	Therefore, these <b>not authorized</b> (other specifics of the general class)	The authorized thing is generic as to:	Therefore, these specifics/ <b>expedients authorized</b>
<b>Singing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs (Colossians 3:16)</b>	Music	Entirely instrumental, sing + instrument, etc.	Method to sing the same thing	Memorized, printed songs, songs projected overhead
	Types of songs	Patriotic, folk, etc.	Which psalms, hymns, spiritual songs	How Great Thou Art; Psalm 19; Heavenly Sunlight

# Generic & Specific, Expedients

“Psalms, hymns and spiritual songs...singing & making melody in your hearts to the Lord”  
Ephesians 5:19

Sing

Play

Sing & Play

Psalms, hymns, spiritual songs

Folk songs

Songs of patriotism

How Great  
Thou Art

Psalm 19

Heavenly  
Sunlight

Memorized

Printed

Projected

Authorized

Not Authorized

An authorized specific/expedient

# Ephesians 5:19

- Method to sing the same thing
  - Memorize, books, overhead displays, handouts
  - These are all specifics authorized by the command to sing, speaking to one another in psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs
  - But is memorizing the songs **expedient** if not all can memorize the song?
    - Memorizing is authorized, but it would not be expedient if all cannot memorize the song.
    - We are operating in a realm of choice regarding the method to sing the same thing
      - We must consider the principle of expediency to determine the most advantageous method

# Not an Expedient:

- Use of instruments in worship to God
  - “We will sing and play an instrument of music. The instrument *helps* with and is profitable to our singing.”
  - What’s the problem?
  - The New Testament command to sing is specific as to type of music. Instrumental music is another type of music. It is a different specific within the general class of music and is thus not authorized – it is not lawful. In order for a thing to be an expedient, it must first be lawful.

# Not an Expedient:

- Use of the church's funds to care for non-saints:
  - “Using the church's funds to help needy non-saints will expedite – be advantageous to – our being able to teach them the gospel”
  - What's the problem?
  - The New Testament teaching of the church helping the needy is specific to needy saints. The needy of the world are a different specific within the general class of people. God gave the specific – needy saints. The needy of the world are a different specific and are thus not authorized, not lawful. To be an expedient, a thing must first be lawful.

# Remember this about expedients

- An expedient facilitates the carrying out of an instruction.
- An expedient must be within the scope of what is lawful, what is authorized.
- We need to first ask this question: “Is it authorized?” If so, then we can consider the question of whether it is expedient



# Lesson 11: When is an Example Binding?

## ❑ **Objective of the lesson:**

- ❑ Consider some principles – simple and logical rules – that help in determining the applicability of New Testament examples.

# Remember

- In lesson 8, we established from the Scriptures that approved examples are authoritative
- This is not our opinion. We did not force or impose this into the New Testament Scriptures. Instead the Scriptures taught us this – both Jesus and the apostles taught us to respect approved examples as authoritative.
- We don't have the right to ignore approved examples.
- “Because the wheat must be separated from the chaff, so to speak, we do not solve the problem of harvesting by plowing under the entire crop” (D.E. Koltenbah, “The Three Methods of Argument to Establish Divine Authority”, Truth Magazine, July 1967)



# Asking: When is a New Testament example binding?

- This question ultimately is about harmonizing all the facts.
- We must consider:
  - The specific example
  - The immediate context of that example
  - The remote context – what the rest of the Bible has to say.
- In other words, harmonize all the facts (See Lesson 7)

# Principles

- (From Responsibility and Authority in the Spiritual Realm, by Dan King and Leon Boyd, p.38, and from Walking by Faith, by Roy Cogdill, pp.22-28)
- Uniformity
- Unity or harmony
- Universal application
- Materiality
- Competence
- Limited application

# Uniformity

- “Does it represent what was done everywhere by all the churches, or is it an isolated case?” (Dan King, Leon Boyd)
- Conversion
- Saul?
- Church’s use of funds