

AUTHORITY

#1

Who has the right to
tell me what to do?

What Is Authority?

- Merriam-Webster: “The power to give orders, make decisions, direct, or control.”
- The power to decide what you and I must or must not do.

Why Is Authority Needed?

Jeremiah 10:23 - "O Lord, I know the way of man is not in himself; It is not in man who walks to direct his own steps."

- You cannot think your own way through life.
- You do not possess the mental abilities to keep from making a huge mess of your life.
- You cannot figure out, on your own, who you are, how you got here, what is expected of you while you are here, or how to successfully leave here.

Why Is Authority Needed?

The proof: Our human condition.

We cannot figure out:

- How to stop killing one another in wars.
- How to solve our ever-increasing crime problems.
- How to rid ourselves of the scourge of drugs and alcohol abuse.
- How to keep a family together.
- Which bathroom to go to!

Who Has The Authority?

By *inherent* right - GOD.

➤ By **CREATIVE** right.

1 Cor. 10:26; Rom. 9:20-21

➤ By **DOMINION** right.

Psa. 47:7-8; Eccl. 8:4

➤ By **FAMILIAL** right.

1 John 3:1; Mat. 6:9-10

Who Has The Authority?

By *inherent* right - GOD.

- Adam and Eve - Gen.3
- World of Noah's time - Gen. 6-9
- Tower of Babel - Gen. 11
- Egypt - Exo. 5-14
- Israel and Judah - 2 Kings 17, 24-25
- Nebuchadnezzar - Dan. 4

Who Has The Authority?

By *delegated* right - JESUS.

- Mat. 28:18 - All authority in heaven and on earth.
- Phil. 2:9-11 - Every knee bows, every tongue confesses Jesus is Lord.
- 1 John 2:3-5 - Relationship with Jesus comes only by keeping His commandments.
- Heb. 5:9 - Jesus is author of eternal salvation to all who OBEY Him.

Who Has The Authority?

By *ambassador* right - APOSTLES.

- 2 Cor. 5:20 - When apostles pleaded and implored, it was God pleading and imploring.
- Mat. 28:20 - Apostles were to teach disciples to observe all things Jesus commanded.
- Luke 10:16 - How ambassadorship works.

Who Has The Authority?

By *inspired* right - SCRIPTURES.

- 1 Thes. 2:13 - Word taught by Paul was rightly received as the word of God.
- 2 Tim. 3:14-16 - Our Bibles have the authority to teach, reprove, correct, and instruct us in righteousness.

Who Has The Authority?

By *charged* right - ALL WHO TEACH
AND PREACH THE WORD.

- Titus 2:11-15 - Titus was charged to use the Scriptures to exhort and rebuke.
- 2 Tim. 3:16-4:5 - Timothy was charged to preach the word; to convince, rebuke, exhort.

Four Practical Points About Our Use Of The Scriptures:

- The Scriptures are not one source of authority among many sources.
- The Scriptures do not change with the times, with culture, or with social norms.
- The Scriptures are not suggestive authority.
- The Scriptures are not inconsequential authority.

2 Thessalonians 1:8



Jeremiah

6:10-13