

Authority – Part 6

What Leads Many
to Stray

*A desire to do more than what
they have the ability to do.*

150 years of church history: Movements to
activate organized structures within the
universal church that the NT never
authorizes.

*A desire to do more than what
they have the ability to do.*

Option #1

Organize a para-church organization to which churches can contribute money to do a greater work than any single church can do individually.

The Bible is Silent!

The American Christian Missionary Society

*A desire to do more than what
they have the ability to do.*

Option #2

One church claims itself a sponsoring church and requests funds from other churches, which the sponsoring church elders distribute as they see fit.

**Violates
Congregational
Autonomy!**

The Herald of Truth

A desire to do more than what they have the ability to do.

Option #3

Individual or church recognizes that God expects from them only according to what they have, not what they do not have.

2 Cor. 8:12 – “According to what one has, and not according to what he does not have”

*A desire to do more than what
they have the ability to do.*

Option #3

Individual or church recognizes that God expects from them only according to what they have, not what they do not have.

*Mark 12:41-44 – The message of the poor
widow's two mites.*

*A desire to do more than what
they have the ability to do.*

Option #3

Individual or church recognizes that God expects from them only according to what they have, not what they do not have.

*Deut. 16:17 – “Every man shall give as he is
able”*

A desire to do more than what they have the ability to do.

Option #3

Individual or church recognizes that God expects from them only according to what they have, not what they do not have.

Ezra 2:69 – How God has always measured His people's work: according to their ability.

A belief that the gospel just isn't a big enough draw today.

"No one is drawn into a church by the teaching and preaching of the gospel anymore. We need something else to get them in, and once they are in, we can hit them with the gospel!"

The old "bait and switch!"

A belief that the gospel just isn't a big enough draw today.

#1 Thing Wrong With That:
It very rarely works in the long run.

What you use to get them, you'll have to continue using to keep them.

John 6:24-27 – They stayed for the loaves and fishes!

A belief that the gospel just isn't a big enough draw today.

#2 Thing Wrong With That:

Even if it does work, we are to be guided by what is scriptural, not by what we deem to be practical.

Pragmatism – Justifying the doing of something just because it seems to work.

A belief that the gospel just isn't a big enough draw today.

#2 Thing Wrong With That:

Even if it does work, we are to be guided by what is scriptural, not by what we deem to be practical.

2 Tim. 4:2 – Preach the word!

Vss. 3-5 – Even when they want fables.

A belief that the gospel just isn't a big enough draw today.

#2 Thing Wrong With That:

Even if it does work, we are to be guided by what is scriptural, not by what we deem to be practical.

The draw of Christianity:

John 12:32 – Salvation thru the cross!

Other Reasons:

The idea that it is better to do too much than to do too little.

Num. 22:18 – Neither LESS nor MORE

The idea that what sounds like a good thing to me surely must be a good thing to God.

1 Sam. 15:19-22 – Obedience is better than sacrifice.

“Let us speak where the Bible speaks, and be silent where the Bible is silent.”

(Thomas Campbell)

“If anyone speaks, let him speak as the oracles of God.”

(1 Peter 4:11)