

AUTHORITY:



WHAT IS IT AND WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?



Authority: What Is It?

- Dictionary Definition:

- Power; Ability; Right

- “The power to adjudicate, or otherwise settle issues or disputes; jurisdiction; the right to control, command, or determine.”

- Necessarily a Part in All Authority:

- Authority figure [king]; laws, rules, regulations; realm of authority [kingdom borders & subjects]; enforcement; reward & punishment



Authority: What Is It?

- Bible Usage

- New & Old Testament

Matt. 21:23; 9:6; Luke 23:7; 1st Cor. 8:9; Heb. 13:10; Rev. 17:13;
Gen. 39:23; Esth. 10:2; 9:29; Dan. 11:17

- Earthly & Spiritual Authority:

Romans 13:1; Matthew 21:23; 28:18; Ephesians 1:20-23



Authority: What Is It?

- Spiritual Authority
 - The Right to Rule Over & Command Others

John 4:24; Romans 9:20, 21

- Man, or God?

Matthew 21:23-25



Authority: Why Is It Important?

- Defines What is Right and Pleasing to God
 - What He Commands & Allows

Acts 9:6; 2nd Corinthians 5:9

- We Do Not Have That Authority

John 14:15



Authority: Why Is It Important?

- The Standard to Settle Disputes/Differences
 - No Standard = No 'Right,' No 'Wrong'

1st John 3:4

- We Do Not Have That Authority

1st Corinthians 4:6; 2nd John 1:9 (NASB)



Authority: Why Is It Important?

- Man is Fallible. God is Not.
 - Some Things 'Seem' Right

Proverbs 14:12; Matthew 7:21-23

- Man Often Seeks His Own Desires

Judges 21:25; James 1:13, 14



Authority: Why Is It Important?

- We Will All One Day Be Judged
 - All Must Give Account to the Supreme Authority

Romans 14:12; 2nd Corinthians 5:10

- The Standard?

John 12:47, 48; Romans 2:12-16

