

SPIRITUAL AUTHORITY CLASS

Spiritual Authority 9-12.doc

Notes from Rev. John Lloyd's teaching, with revisions and additions by Rev. Dick Christensen. Recommended reading: "Destined For The Throne" by Paul E. Billheimer, and "Tale of Three Kings" by Gene Edwards.

Some adjustments were made to the outline format on 9-12, but no changes were made to the material.

I. Some key thoughts concerning Spiritual Authority:

A. The scriptures reveal several key thoughts in understanding authority. Some of these include:

- 1.** The ultimate authority is God. Deut. 6:4, 4:35,39; Zech. 14:9; Mark 12:29; 1 Cor. 8:6; Isa. 45:5-6, 18, 22, 46:9; 1 Kings 8:60

Deu 6:4 Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God is one LORD:

Mark 12:29 And Jesus answered him, The first of all the commandments is, Hear, O Israel; The Lord our God is one Lord:

Deu 4:35 Unto thee it was showed, that thou mightest know that **the LORD he is God; there is none else beside him.**

Deu 4:39 Know therefore this day, and consider it in thine heart, that **the LORD he is God in heaven above, and upon the earth beneath: there is none else.**

Isa 45:5-6 I am the LORD, and **there is none else, there is no God beside me:** I girded thee, though thou hast not known me: 45:6 That they may know from the rising of the sun, and from the west, that **there is none beside me. I am the LORD, and there is none else.**

From the passages above we clearly see that there is only one Lord who is God, and that there are no other gods. There is but one God in heaven and earth. He is supreme above all else. He is the ultimate authority!

- 2.** All authority is God given. See Romans chapter 13.

Rom 13:1-5 Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. **For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God.** 13:2 Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation. 13:3 For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to the evil. Wilt thou then not be afraid of the power? do that which is good, and thou shalt have praise of the same: 13:4 For he is the minister of God to thee for good. But if thou do that which is evil, be afraid; for he beareth not the sword in vain: for he is the minister of God, a revenger to execute wrath upon him that doeth evil. 13:5 Wherefore ye must needs be subject, not only for wrath, but also for conscience sake.

3. Authority is given to maintain order, point direction, and dispense correction.

Luke 20:20 And they watched him, and sent forth spies, which should feign themselves just men, that they might take hold of his words, that so **they might deliver him unto the power and authority of the governor.**

John 5:26-27 For as the Father hath life in himself; so hath he given to the Son to have life in himself; 5:27 And hath **given him authority to execute judgment** also, because he is the Son of man.

Titus 2:15 These things speak, and exhort, and **rebuke with all authority.** Let no man despise thee.

4. Submission and obedience to authority is an attitude of heart.

Mat 15:18-19 But those things which proceed out of the mouth come forth from the heart; and they defile the man. 15:19 For **out of the heart** proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies:

Rom 6:17 But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but **ye have obeyed from the heart** that form of doctrine which was delivered you.

Eph 6:6 Not with eyeservice, as menpleasers; but as the servants of Christ, **doing the will of God from the heart;**

5. When we are faithful in our responsibilities, God increases our authority.

Luke 19:17 And he said unto him, Well, thou good servant: **because thou hast been faithful in a very little, have thou authority over ten cities.**

6. God honors authority, even when it is misused. There are times when wicked people are given authority which brings hardship upon the people as they use their

power for themselves instead of in service to the people. Even Satan has authority and power to give to his followers. Remember also that Michael, the arch angel did not bring rebuke to Satan out of respect for Satan's authority, but let the Lord rebuke Satan in Jude 9.

Prov 29:2 When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice: but **when the wicked beareth rule, the people mourn.**

Mat 20:25-26 But Jesus called them unto him, and said, Ye know that the princes of the Gentiles exercise dominion over them, and **they that are great exercise authority** upon them. 20:26 **But it shall not be so among you:** but whosoever will be great among you, let him be your servant;

Rev 13:2 And the beast which I saw was like unto a leopard, and his feet were as the feet of a bear, and his mouth as the mouth of a lion: and **the dragon gave him his power, and his seat, and great authority.**

7. People rejoice when they are under a righteous authority.

Prov 29:2 **When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice:** but when the wicked beareth rule, the people mourn.

8. Everyone should willingly place themselves under authority.

Mat 8:9 For **I am a man under authority**, having soldiers under me: and I say to this man, Go, and he goeth; and to another, Come, and he cometh; and to my servant, Do this, and he doeth it.

9. We were not meant to use authority for our own purposes.

Mat 20:25-26 But Jesus called them unto him, and said, Ye know that the princes of the Gentiles exercise dominion over them, and **they that are great exercise authority** upon them. 20:26 **But it shall not be so among you:** but whosoever will be great among you, let him be your servant;

10. Jesus gives authority to those who followed Him. With authority there is responsibility.

Mark 13:34-37 For the Son of man is as a man taking a far journey, who left his house, and **gave authority to his servants**, and to every man his work, and commanded the porter to watch. 13:35 Watch ye therefore: for ye know not when the master of the house cometh, at

even, or at midnight, or at the cockcrowing, or in the morning: 13:36 Lest coming suddenly he find you sleeping. 13:37 And what I say unto you I say unto all, Watch.

Luke 9:1 Then he called his twelve **disciples together, and gave them power and authority** over all devils, and to cure diseases.

2 Cor 10:8 For though I should boast somewhat more **of our authority, which the Lord hath given us** for edification, and not for your destruction, I should not be ashamed:

11. We are to pray for those in authority.

1 Tim 2:1-2 I exhort therefore, that, first of all, **supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; 2:2 For kings, and for all that are in authority;** that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty.

12. Women are not to usurp authority over men.

1 Tim 2:12 But I suffer not a woman to teach, **nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence.**

13. Satan has authority & gives authority

Rev 13:2 And the beast which I saw was like unto a leopard, and his feet were as the feet of a bear, and his mouth as the mouth of a lion: and **the dragon gave him his power, and his seat, and great authority.**

14. We must learn to respect the office of authority even when we do not respect the person holding the office. This was the example of Christ as He stood before His accusers and the chief rulers.

15. Our position of authority can make us proud and God resist the proud, but builds up the humble. Pride was what brought about Lucifer's rebellion, as we shall see later in this study.

16. We are wise to **first** submit our plans to those in authority, before we act on them. Thus we avoid becoming an authority unto ourselves.

17. There will come a day when Jesus will have put down all authority and give the kingdom to the Father.

1 Cor 15:24 Then cometh the end, when he shall have delivered up the kingdom to God, even the Father; **when he shall have put down all rule and all authority and power.**

II. Jesus submitted to the authority of the Father

COLOSSIANS 1:14-16 "In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins. Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creation. For by him were all things created, that are in heaven and that are in earth, visible and invisible. All things were created by him, and for him. He is before all things and by him all things consist"

- A. Eikon = a figure, image or likeness. Jesus Christ came to walk in obedience to the Father so He could **reveal** to the world the nature of God, His love for mankind, and how man could live.

John 14:9 Jesus saith unto him, Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known me, Philip? he that **hath seen me hath seen the Father**; and how sayest thou then, Show us the Father?

- B. Even Jesus the Lord of glory came in submission to Father God. He came not to do His own will, but rather the will of the Father. In doing so He establishes a pattern of submission for us to follow. Even in His death, Jesus did not rebel against those who were exercising authority over Him. This He could do knowing the authority over Him was ordained by God, and that no man took His life, rather He laid it down as a sacrifice by the will of the Father. Thus Jesus recognized that God is the source of all authority.

John 6:38 For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me.

- C. We each must answer this very important question in our lives. "Do I live and breathe by the power of man or by the grace of God?" If we believe that we ultimately live by the rule of man, than our lives will constantly be frustrated by the dictates of others who we feel have power over us. However, if we recognize that all authority is given by God, and that all men live and breathe by His good pleasure, then ultimately it is He who rules over the affairs of men in my life, and I can place my trust in Him not worrying about what man might do. This understanding has a tremendous liberating effect on our lives when we see God as our source and not man. Now I can look to God for everything, and take everything to Him knowing that He cares for me.

Mat 6:30-34 Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into the oven, shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith? 6:31 Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we

be clothed? 6:32 (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things. 6:33 But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. 6:34 Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof.

III. The Reality of God and His Authority are seen in His Creation.

- A. AUTHORITY- The right and empowerment to create and enforce laws, extract (demand or force) obedience, and determine judgement.
- B. God's authority and existence are seen in His creation.

ROMANS 1:19-21 "Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shown it unto them. For **the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen.** When they knew God, they knew him not. They did not glorify or thank him, but became vain, and their foolish hearts were darkened."

1. Man sees there is a God through his creation, but they close their eyes to it. There is no EXCUSE for man to be ignorant to the invisible things.
 - You can not see the air, but you know it is there.
 - You can not see the wind, but you know it is there.
 - You can not see the invisible force of gravity, but you know it is there.
2. Man can see the order and design in nature and realize there is a supreme God who set these things in order. When man resists the reality of God he does so because he does not want to acknowledge God's ultimate authority over him. This is rebellion against God.

IV. When you resist Gods Delegated Authority you resist God

- A. All people in Authority over us, are Gods ministers.

Rom 13:1-5 Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God. 13:2 Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation. 13:3 For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to the evil. Wilt thou then not be afraid of the power? do that which is good, and thou shalt have praise of the same: 13:4 For he is the minister of God to thee for good. But if thou do that which is evil, be afraid; for he beareth not the sword in vain: for he is the minister of God, a revenger to execute wrath upon him that

doeth evil. 13:5 Wherefore ye must needs be subject, not only for wrath, but also for conscience sake.

1. They are there for our protection and guidance.
2. God puts people in authority over us to correct us.
3. God brings people and situations into our lives to conform us.
4. God brings circumstances our way to test us (with the idea of proving us true, able to meet the test). God does not test us expecting to see us fail. His heart is that we will prove ourselves worthy.

B. When we resist God through rebellion, we place ourselves in danger of God's judgement.

ROMANS 13:1-2

"Let every soul be subject under the higher powers. For there is NO POWER, but of God. The powers that be are ordained of God. Whosoever resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God: **and they that resist, shall receive to themselves damnation.**"

C. God has delegated authority to earthly rulers.

1. If you resist God delegated authority, you are asking for trouble. Two reasons why you should SUBMIT to God's delegated authority:
 - a. To stay out of trouble. God has good reason to place others in authority over us even when we don't agree with those He has placed there. We need to remember His plan is not to harm us but to give us hope and a good future.

Jer 29:11-13 For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. 29:12 Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. 29:13 You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.

- b. To have a right heart with God. Our obedience to the authority God has placed over us helps us to stay in submission to Him as we obey His appointed authority. Remember submission is easy when everything is going our way. The test of submission comes when we are asked to do something we do not want to do.
2. God is longsuffering, but there comes a time with God when He will deal with those who rebel against His authority and person. Jesus taught us that inasmuch as we had done something to one of His children we had done so to

Him. The same principle follows that, if we rebel against His delegated authority, we are rebelling against Him.

Mat 25:37-40 Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungered, and fed thee? or thirsty, and gave thee drink? 25:38 When saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in? or naked, and clothed thee? 25:39 Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee? 25:40 And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, **Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.**

D. The attitude of sin and rebellion lives in our HEARTS. Even our heart can deceive us. At times we may think we are acting in accord with the righteousness of God concerning a certain situation. We must be careful to ask the Holy Spirit to examine our heart, and to reveal to us our true motives. This will help us not to deceive ourselves. Even David prayed that God would search his heart. The word used in that passage for “search” actually means to “ransack” as in to rip apart so to expose anything that might be hidden. God help us when we feel the need to oppose others that we have carefully and willingly laid our own hearts open for examination before God.

Jer 17:9 The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?

Psa 139:23 Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts:

E. God would rather have unrighteous authority -than lawlessness (where no authority exists). This we know because the Bible teaches us to obey those who are set in authority over us (Romans 13). Even when the authority over us is without Christ, they are there by God’s design and are to be obeyed insomuch as they do not require us to transgress the law of God.

Acts 5:29 Then Peter and the other apostles answered and said, **We ought to obey God rather than men.**

Peter and the apostles could not obey the orders of the High Priest as to do so would have violated what God had directed them to do.

V. Salvation has to do with Authority.

A. When Adam & Eve chose to do their own will rather than obey God’s will they gave up innocence and right standing with God. They were rebelling against, resisting the

authority of God. This is sin, and the consequence then was the same as today—death! Death is separation from God and the life that God is.

- B. When we surrender to Him, we step down from having “self” enthroned in our lives and give God back His rightful place as the authority over our lives. This recognition of Him as Lord is what brings salvation to our lives.
- C. By submission through faith and obedience to Christ, we regain our right standing before God. Submission then is not losing something, but the regaining of what was lost. Once again we are one with Him who loves us. When we come to Christ we embrace the authority of God.

But often there is still much work to be done in our hearts before Jesus becomes Lord of our everyday life. We may recognize His ultimate authority, but man generally will continue to deal with the struggle between his rebellious self-will (flesh) and the Spirit of God’s life which now lives in the new believer.

Rom 7:14-8:9 (New International Version NIV) We know that the law is spiritual; but I am unspiritual, sold as a slave to sin. 7:15 I do not understand what I do. For what I want to do I do not do, but what I hate I do. 7:16 And if I do what I do not want to do, I agree that the law is good. 7:17 As it is, it is no longer I myself who do it, but it is sin living in me. 7:18 I know that nothing good lives in me, that is, in my sinful nature. For I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out. 7:19 For what I do is not the good I want to do; no, the evil I do not want to do--this I keep on doing. 7:20 Now if I do what I do not want to do, it is no longer I who do it, but it is sin living in me that does it. 7:21 So I find this law at work: When I want to do good, evil is right there with me. 7:22 For in my inner being I delight in God's law; 7:23 but I see another law at work in the members of my body, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin at work within my members. 7:24 What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? 7:25 Thanks be to God--through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, I myself in my mind am a slave to God's law, but in the sinful nature a slave to the law of sin. 8:1 Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, 8:2 because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life set me free from the law of sin and death. 8:3 For what the law was powerless to do in that it was weakened by the sinful nature, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful man to be a sin offering. And so he condemned sin in sinful man, 8:4 in order that the righteous requirements of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the sinful nature but according to the Spirit. 8:5 Those who live according to the sinful nature have their minds set on what that nature desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires. 8:6 The mind of sinful man is death, but the mind controlled by the Spirit is life and peace; 8:7 the sinful mind is hostile to God. It does not submit to God's law, nor can it do so. 8:8 Those controlled by the sinful nature cannot please

God. 8:9 You, however, are controlled not by the sinful nature but by the Spirit, if the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Christ.

D. We must ask God to deal with and change our heart. When God works in you:

1. Your heart will have a need and desire to make what was wrong—right.
2. You will also have a desire to forgive those who have hurt you, and to ask those who you have hurt to forgive you. These are indications that God is working His live in us.

VI. Four Different kinds of Authority:

A. Civil Authority

1. Kings, Presidents, Governors, and Police etc.
2. They are not to be a terror to good men, but to punish evil men.
3. As good men we are not to be afraid of this kind of authority.

ROMANS 13:1 Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God.

ROMANS 13:3-5 For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to the evil. Wilt thou then not be afraid of the power? do that which is good, and thou shalt have praise of the same: 13:4 For he is the minister of God to thee for good. But if thou do that which is evil, be afraid; for he beareth not the sword in vain: for he is the minister of God, a revenger to execute wrath upon him that doeth evil. 13:5 Wherefore ye must needs be subject, not only for wrath, but also for conscience sake.

4. Civil authority is delegated authority
 - a. They are appointed by God to carry on moral government and to enforce laws.
 - b. Their office is ordained by God. But not all people who hold God ordained positions are godly people. God is not responsible for the actions of those in office any more than He is responsible for the sins committed by His followers.
 - c. If man resists civil authority he is resisting God.

ROMANS 13:2- "Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, **resisteth** the ordinance of God: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation."

5. Man's law is good and meant for our welfare, but not all laws are just.

- a. Civil laws are meant to treat all people the same.
 - b. Man's law does not intend to look at individual circumstances.
 - c. Laws are meant to punish law breakers.
 - d. Civil law has standardized guidelines for punishment which may seem unfair at times.
 - e. In some counties the laws of today seem to be more consumed with protecting the rights of the criminals than that of the victims.
6. God's justice or punishment is always in correct proportion to the seriousness of the crime.
- a. He looks upon the heart attitude as well as the offence of the person.
 - b. His response is not always the same, because he alone knows the whole truth and what is just punishment.
 - c. If everyone was lead by the Holy Spirit, we'd have no crime. There would be no law breakers.
7. Man is to honor God's ordained authority

I PETER 2:13-17 Submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake: whether it be to the king, as supreme; 2:14 Or unto governors, as unto them that are sent by him for the punishment of evildoers, and for the praise of them that do well. 2:15 For so is the will of God, that with well doing ye may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men: 2:16 As free, and not using your liberty for a cloak of maliciousness, but as the servants of God. 2:17 Honour all men. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honour the king.

- a. From the top to the bottom authority, show HONOR.
- b. When we walk according to the laws and God's word, God will prosper us and honor us.
- c. When those of authority do well, we are to praise them.
- d. We have a greater responsibility to walk in righteousness as the followers of Christ. We are to show Christ to the world. We have a higher calling to walk in as followers of Christ. We should go beyond what the law of man requires as a minimum. We have a greater responsibility and higher calling to obey. "If we are required to give our shirt we should give our coat also" this is an example of the higher expectation we should walk in.
- e. Those under authority have a greater responsibility because they have to submit even when they do not agree.

B. Social Authority

1. Social authority is that ordained authority we find in our place of work: Bosses, supervisors, managers, and department heads etc.

I PETER 2:18-21

"Servants be subject to your masters with fear; not only to the good and gentle, but also to the froward. For this is thank worthy, is a man, for conscience toward God endure grief, suffering wrongfully ... but if ye do well, and suffer for it, ye take it patiently, that is acceptable with God ... for Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye shall follow his foot steps."

2. If you have a job, you are a servant, you have a certain obligation to them, and to God in your service. They pay you for your service.
3. God has called us to stand in faith, and to endure hardship as a good soldier following the example of Christ.
4. Pray that the Lord will give you wisdom in how to handle abusive authority.
5. God places us in those situations to prove us so we can let others see God.
6. We must DIE to ourselves, stand steady in that situation, and trust God to work in the situation.
7. Be obedient to your calling as a servant. If God chooses to place you in a difficult situation, it is because He trust you to prove yourself worthy of His calling. He has a purpose He wishes to work out in the situation and wants to use you to do it. This is a special calling, to be so entrusted by God. Be a good soldier and serve God. He will reward you.
8. When we respond in our flesh, we become just like the unrighteous.
9. We are called to be Spiritual people, and to be so at all times not just when we feel spiritual. The world is always watching us.
10. We are called to be different from the world. We should sense that something is wrong with us, when the world can't sense any difference in us from them.
11. You need to submit inasmuch as is within your ability. If you can't then make arrangements to leave in a quiet, respectful, and orderly manner raising no accusation, and causing no division. Let God will deal with the situation.

Saul saw a righteous man die, Stephen, he saw his submissive attitude to the end. (ACTS 7:55-60) - this effected Saul's heart very little at that time. - God dealt with Saul's heart later.

I TIMOTHY 6:1- "Let as many servants as are under the yoke count their own masters worthy of all honor, that the name of God and his doctrine be not blasphemed."

- a. It is difficult to follow instruction, we naturally want to resist it.
- b. We are to receive authorities instructions whether they are right or wrong in our opinion insomuch as they are not asking us to break the law of God.

- c. When you resist someone, it makes them dig in and prepare for battle, they become defensive.
- d. Be careful what you say, if you choose to resist the authority. Remember that we are to honor authority whether we agree with them or not. The testimony of God is involved in our action before other people.

COLOSSIANS 3:22-24 "Servants, obey in all things your masters, according to the flesh: not with eyeservice, as menpleasers; but in singleness of heart, fearing God; whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as unto the Lord, and not unto men; Knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance; for Ye serve the Lord Christ ...

EPHESIANS 6:5-8 "Servants, be obedient to them that are your masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling ... but as the servant of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart ... Knowing that whatsoever good thing any man doeth, the same shall he receive of the Lord

12. Do your best with all your heart.
 - a. What good you do the same you will receive of the Lord.
 - b. Give grace when it is not deserved
 - c. Always go the way of GRACE, give people what they do not deserve

C. Kingdom Authority

1. Kingdom authority has to do with the family of God. We see kingdom authority in the Christian home where the husband is to be the head or the ruling authority just as Christ is the head of the church. Perhaps an equally good phrase is that of “responsible” authority. The wife, like the church, is under the responsibility and authority of the husband as the church is subject to Christ. The children are under their parents.
2. Ephesians chapter 5:21—6:4 shows this relationship and it’s parallel to the relationship Christ has with the church. This should be the goal of every family.

Eph 5:21—6:4 Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God. 5:22 Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord. 5:23 For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body. 5:24 Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing. 5:25 Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; 5:26 That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, 5:27 That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish. 5:28 So ought men to love their wives as their

own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself. 5:29 For no man ever yet hated his own flesh; but nourisheth and cherisheth it, even as the Lord the church: 5:30 For we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones. 5:31 For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh. 5:32 This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the church. 5:33 Nevertheless let every one of you in particular so love his wife even as himself; and the wife see that she reverence her husband. 6:1 Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right. 6:2 Honour thy father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise; 6:3 That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth. 6:4 And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

3. We see in the above passage that wives are instructed to submit to their husbands as if they were submitting to the Lord, Himself. Remember that submission is never an issue until you are asked to submit in an area where you do not agree. You might argue that one has not truly exercised themselves in submission until they do so in opposition to their own desire. Yet the admonishment of God is that wives submit to their husbands in everything, which is a strong statement. To surpass any doubt He added that they should do so as though their husband was the Lord, Himself.
4. In verse 21 we see another important Kingdom authority principle, and that is each one in submission to one another. No one usurping another's authority, but each preferring the other. Kingdom authority is not without its chain of command, but its foundation is a higher principle. The principle of love!
5. When we look at the husbands authority and kingdom responsibility, we see that he (like Christ) is to love his wife (the church) and give himself for it. Just as Christ gave His life for the Church so is the husband to so love his wife that he would gladly lay down his own rights, desire, and very life for her sake. Thus we see that Kingdom authority on the highest level is rooted in love. A ruler who rules without love is as the sound of clanging cymbals—harsh and troubling to one's spirit.
6. Christ is our example, we are to follow in His pattern. Christ demonstrated His love for us when we were alienated from Him by sin. He loved us first. Thus it is the responsibility of the husband to love his wife. No less than 4 times the scripture admonishes husbands to love their wives. It is generally found that when a wife knows she is loved by her husband, she will willingly submit to his leadership.
7. Women in their formation by God were given different strengths and sensitivities from that of man. A wise husband will see his role as more of a "leader" than

“ruler.” A wise leader will involve others in the decision making process in order to refine and sharpen his ultimate decision. A wise husband will show honor and involve his wife, and at times even his children in the decision making process. In doing so he has not compromised his leadership authority, but rather demonstrated wise leadership by looking at the situation and facts from other points of view.

I PETER 3:7-"Likewise, ye husbands, dwell with them according to knowledge, giving honor unto the wife, as unto the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life; that your prayers be not hindered."

8. Jesus Christ is our Lord because he has demonstrated love and truth. He has proven himself and thus we give Him Lordship. All men desire to be lords. But few men can be outside of their own home. Thus they will test their lordship desire in the submissiveness of their wife and children. This is all well and good, but men do well to remember that Christ earned Lordship through His sacrifice. The husband has to earn his position of lordship, some keys are:
 - a. Always love your wife and give her security.
 - b. A godly man is someone a woman can trust.
 - c. He responds to the needs of his family before he meets his own needs. He is not selfish.
 - d. He gives himself to prayer and the Lord's leading.

D. Church Authority

1 Cor 16:15-16 I beseech you, brethren, (ye know the house of Stephanas, that it is the firstfruits of Achaia, and that **they have addicted themselves to the ministry of the saints,**)
16:16 That ye **submit yourselves unto such,** and to every one that helpeth with us, and laboureth.

1. In the passage above Paul is admonishing fellow believers to honor, and submit to those who have given themselves whole heartedly to the work of the ministry. The thought here is one of unity and harmony in service to God.
2. We should serve one another with humility not giving place to jealousy and envy that bring strife and discord. Rather we should seek to edify and build one another up for we are one body.

1 Th 5:11-13 Wherefore comfort yourselves together, and **edify one another,** even as also ye do. **5:12** And we beseech you, brethren, to know them which labour among you, and are over you in the Lord, and admonish you; **5:13** And to **esteem them very highly** in love for their work's sake. And be at peace among yourselves.

3. We must realize that people are human and not super-human. We all have faults, and leaders on any level are not infallible. When your faced with a problem concerning relationship take it to the Lord first. It is Satan's goal to break down our trust in God and respect for authority. Keep in mind that God uses imperfect people in an imperfect world to do His work. Proof of that is that He can use even you!
4. We were not all meant to be leaders or to have great authority. With great authority comes great responsibility. Yet each of us are responsible for the calling that is on our lives. We are to walk worthy of that calling and honor those who have even greater responsibility.

EPHESIANS 4:1-3...beseech you that ye **walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called**, with all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love. Endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace ...

EPHESIANS 4:7-11 But unto everyone of us is given grace according to the measure of the **GIFT** of Christ ... and he gave some apostles, and some prophets, some evangelist, and some pastors and teachers."

5. The Authority within the Church

HEBREW 13:17- "Obey them that have the **rule over you**, and submit yourselves for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy and not grief."

1 Tim 3:1 This is a true saying, If a man desire **the office of a bishop**, he desireth a good work.

1 Tim 3:8 Likewise must **the deacons** be grave, not doubletongued, not given to much wine, not greedy of filthy lucre;

1 Tim 5:17 Let **the elders that rule** well be counted worthy of double honour, especially they who labour in the word and doctrine.

1 Pet 5:1-2 The **elders** which are among you I exhort, who am also an elder, and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that shall be revealed: 5:2 Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind;

- a. When we look at positions or offices of authority within the church assembly we find the following basic offices which are at times referred to by different names
- (I) Bishop = a ruling elder who more commonly is referred to as a Pastor. A Bishop in modern terms is likely to be someone with authority over several churches.
 - (II) Elder = a recognized spiritual leader who may have responsibility for feeding the flock the Word of God (such as a Pastor) or someone recognized for their calling who ministers to spiritual needs within the church, but may not bare the main responsibility for preaching the Word. Pastors are elders but not all elders are Pastors.
 - (III) Deacon = these were individuals called to minister to the material needs of the assembly. They saw to the widows, orphans, and anyone in the body who was going through a particular hardship.
- b. They are accountable to God for us and will someday stand before Him to answer for their calling.
- c. Keep in mind that it is easier to win over souls, than to watch over souls.
- d. One of their main responsibilities is to lift people up and restore them

Galatians 6:1-"Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness. bear, ye one another's burdens, and so fulfill the Law of Christ. For if a man think himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceiveth himself."

- e. Everyone is held responsible for their own calling. There are 5 ministry callings given in Ephesians 4 for the work of the ministry:

Eph 4:11-12 And he gave some, **apostles**; and some, **prophets**; and some, **evangelists**; and some, **pastors** and **teachers**; 4:12 For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:

- Prophet = Points the way.
- Evangelist = Dynamic, from church to church.
- Pastors = Serves and feeds the church.
- Teachers = Brings balance through sound instruction.
- Apostles = Does all of the above, and starts churches.

- f. It is apparent that God has placed authority within His body, the church. We as members of that body are to honor those who He has placed in leadership over us. They are not infallible nor are they perfect. They

struggle with temptation just as is common to man. Our eyes should not be fixed on them but on God. Man will fail us but God is faithful. Our calling is to love God and one another!

VII. The First Rebellion:

A. The first act of rebellion was committed by Lucifer.

1. Lucifer's name means "brightness" or "morning star".
2. Lucifer's name became Satan after his rebellion against God.
3. "Satan" means: slanderer, slander = expression of damaging or malicious opinions to speak evil of for the purpose of injuring and without regard for the truth.
4. As we have already studied in "Dispensations Class" the story of Lucifer's rebellion, we shall only point out the main things concerning what we know.
 - a. We believe that Lucifer is a created angel who was the "anointed cherub" of Ezekiel 28:11-19. He had very high authority and perhaps even ruled over the earth at one point prior to Adam and Eve.
 - b. We find that he was:
 - Full of wisdom
 - Perfect in beauty
 - In the Garden of God, most likely "Eden"
 - He was created, NOT born
 - The anointed Cherub
 - Upon the Holy Mount of God
 - Perfect in his ways
 - Walked in Righteousness
 - Possibly at one time he was the leader of worship in heaven (the reference vs. 13 to his tabrets & pipes indicate he made music which also may be why he uses music so much today in the corruption of lives.)
 - c. Lucifer became corrupted in his wisdom by reason of his brightness (which may speak of his position of authority). He attempted to exalt himself above God. His goal was to exalt his earthly throne above God's heavenly throne. Lucifer's slandering brought his earthly subjects, as well as 1/3 of angels in Heaven into rebellion against God.

Ezekiel 28:17 "Thine heart was lifted up because of thy beauty. Thou hast corrupted thy wisdom by reason of thy brightness."

- d. He voiced the true condition of his heart when he declared his "5 I will's" in **Isaiah 14:12-15**.
 - I will ascend into Heaven.

- I will exalt my throne above the Stars of God.
- I will set upon the Mount of the Congregation.
- I will ascend above the heights of the clouds.
- I will be like the Most High.

e. In Isaiah 14 we see the danger of a heart that is lifted up in pride due to our position of authority. Pride leads to the sin of rebellion against those in authority over us. Thus God resists the proud:

1 Pet 5:5 Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all of you be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for **God resisteth the proud**, and giveth grace to the humble.

5. The fact that God resists those who improperly use their position of authority is seen in how He dealt with the rebellion of Lucifer:

Revelation 12:9 “and Satan which deceiveth the whole world; he was cast out into the Earth and his angels were cast out with him.” [Lucifer & his angels no longer held their former position or authority in heaven].

Isa 14:15 Yet thou (speaking to Lucifer) shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit.

Ezekiel 28:16-19 list God’s “I wills” to Lucifer:

- I will cast thee as profane out of the Mount of God.
- I will destroy thee, O covering cherub, from the midst of the stones of fire
- I will cast thee to the ground.
- I will lay thee before kings, that they may behold you.
- I will bring forth a fire from the midst of thee, it shall devour thee.
- I will bring you to ashes upon the earth in the sight of all them that behold thee.
- All they that know thee among the people shall be astonished at thee: Thou shalt be a terror, and never shalt thou be any more.

6. From the passages above we can see that God will deal with those who chose to exalt themselves against His authority. What we often fail to realize is that every sin is an exalting of our self against the authority of God over our lives. Why should it surprise us when God acts in justice to preserve His holiness. We are all guilty of sin, and the wages of sin is death. Therefore, God would be just in requiring our life at any time yet we frequently take our sinful acts lightly because of our trust in God’s grace. How differently would we behave if we knew God would no longer be longsuffering with us ?

VIII. Rebellion—a HEART attitude

- A. We know from the Old Testament scriptures that God never wanted Israel to have a King like the other nations. They REJECTED God as King, wanting someone visible to be their King.

1 Sam 8:7 And the LORD said unto Samuel, Hearken unto the voice of the people in all that they say unto thee: for they have not rejected thee, but **they have rejected me**, that I should not reign over them.

- B. They FEARED, instead of trusting in God. They knew Samuel was getting old, and his sons did not walk with the Lord as Samuel did. They feared God would not find someone like Samuel to lead them.

1 Sam 8:4-5 Then all the elders of Israel gathered themselves together, and came to Samuel unto Ramah, 8:5 And said unto him, Behold, **thou art old, and thy sons walk not in thy ways**: now make us a king to judge us like all the nations.

- C. They WANTED to be like the world. We as Christians are to be separate, to come out of the world and no longer be like it. But like Israel, many find this separation difficult and begin to hunger again for the world. This is very dangerous.

1 Sam 8:20 That **we also may be like all the nations**; and that our king may judge us, and go out before us, and fight our battles.

- D. Even after God warned them as to what this decision would mean further on, they persisted in their desire trusting in their selves rather than God's faithfulness. Their hearts were filled with rebellion, and they no longer would hear God. The day would come when God would no longer hear them. Whatsoever you sow, you reap!

1 Sam 8:19 Nevertheless **the people refused to obey** the voice of Samuel; and they said, Nay; but we will have a king over us;

- E. This brought about the end of Theocracy (GOD RULED) and ushered in a Kingdom (MAN RULED).
 1. So God brought them a King, and told them that they will have to deal with their choice as ruler over them. Should they not obey both the Lord's laws and the kings', they would be destroyed.

2. Samuel reveals to the people what the Lord tells him a King will demand: (1 Samuel 8:11-17).
 - a. He shall reign over you.
 - b. He will take your sons and daughters as slaves.
 - c. He will take your best belongings.
 - d. He will take a 10th of all things.
 - e. He will take your servants.

Sometimes God gives us what we ask for even when we are in rebellion, knowing it is not what we need..**

3. Saul = 1st King of Israel – the people’s choice, here we see an example of people choosing their leader by the wrong qualities.
 - a. He was tall and Handsome.
 - b. He was the anointed king by God.
 - c. He obeyed God for a time.
 - d. He walked with God.
 - e. He was humbled before the Lord.
4. Saul, who was reluctant at first to be King, became exalted through his office and God’s initial blessing. He was lifted up in PRIDE and before long he fell in sin. Authority & position can effect a person who has not learned to be under authority.
 - a. He showed self will.
 - b. He intrudes into the Priests office. (I SAMUEL 13:8)
 - c. He begins to make excuses for his sins.
 - d. He broke the commandments of the Lord. (I SAMUEL 13:1)
 - e. He laid the blame for his failures on other people. (I SAMUEL 15:20)
 - f. He became exalted, not staying small in his own sight. (I SAMUEL 15:17)
 - g. He rejected the word of God. (I SAMUEL 15:23)
 - h. He became jealous of David and made 21 attempts to kill him. (I SAMUEL 18:6)
 - i. He sought counsel from witches and demons. (I SAMUEL 28:7)

5. God is longsuffering, and He endured much of Saul's rebellion. However, there comes a point where God will no longer hold back His judgement. He took the Holy Spirit from Saul leaving him to an evil spirit. Spiritual authority carries spiritual responsibility. Many want the authority but not the responsibility.

1 Sam 16:14-15 But the spirit of the LORD departed from Saul, and an evil spirit from the LORD troubled him. 16:15 And Saul's servants said unto him, Behold now, an evil spirit from God troubleth thee.

6. We find Saul directly disobeying God's command to him. He contends with God's authority, and did not wait for Samuel offering his own sacrifice to God. God told Samuel that Saul's days were numbered because of his self will. God was at the point where He was sorry that He allowed Saul to be made King. Authority that walks in self will is eventually overthrown. Remember a true leader serves others not himself.

I SAMUEL 15:11--"It repenteth me, that I have set up Saul to be King: for he is turned back from following me, and hath not performed my commandments."

7. Samuel tells Saul that obedience is more important to God than all forms of religion, sacrifices, rituals, and ceremonies. Rebellion and stubbornness are a manifestation of failure in conforming to the truth.

I SAMUEL 15:22 ... Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice ... for rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Because thou hast rejected the word of the Lord, he hath also rejected thee from being King."

8. Samuel left Saul and never went to him again. Yet he mourned him and prayed for him. God departed from Saul, and rejected his authority. **But, the people** still had to submit to him and his authority as king.
 - a. Saul was king for 40 years, but for 38 years he was without God.
 - b. David was hated by Saul for 37 years.
 - c. David was King for 40 years.

IX. Pride leads to Rebellion which is as the Sin of Witchcraft.

A. PRIDE is found in the heart of the Kingdom of Darkness.

1. It is an attitude of independence from God, and is manifested in disobedience to God.

2. PRIDE yields REBELLION and DISOBEDIENCE which BRINGS:

- Darkened outlook
- Hatred
- Jealousy
- Self-Centeredness
- Selfishness
- Prejudice
- Chaos
- Demotion
- Destruction
- Loneliness
- Bitterness
- Weariness
- Dishonesty
- Greed
- Lust
- Slander
- Gossip
- Condemnation
- DEATH
- Everlasting Judgement

B. HUMILITY is found in the heart of Gods Kingdom.

1. It is an attitude of dependence on God, and manifested in obedience to God.
2. Only through humility is there salvation. We must acknowledge our sin & need of a savior.
3. Everything we have, came from His hand. Every good and perfect gift comes from God.
4. He has done it all, I did not do it. We are the workmanship of His hands. Without God I am as nothing, but with God I can do all things through Christ Jesus.
5. God exalted Jesus above all things because of his humility and obedience.
6. HUMILITY and SUBMISSION with OBEDIENCE BRINGS:
 - Love
 - Peace
 - Joy
 - Victory
 - Power
 - Promotion
 - Forgiveness
 - Grace

- Healing
- Edification
- Harmony
- Unity
- No Condemnation
- Righteousness
- Loyalty
- Honor
- Positive Attitude
- Reward
- Courage
- Faith
- Trust
- Freedom
- Vision
- Truth
- Light
- Eternal Life

Thus we can see that there is a tremendous advantage to walking in humility and obedience as compared to pride and rebellion.

X. The Attitude of Submission

A. SUBMISSION is a matter of ATTITUDE while OBEDIENCE is a matter of CONDUCT.

1. When the authority over you is not a Christian, or not ruling in a godly manner, it is still our responsibility to walk in humility, and honor. Seeking to perform our employer's will insomuch that it does not cause us to disobey God. Even if we feel we must disobey our employer, we must do so in humility and never prideful or insubordinate.
2. If you disagree with your employer, follow the teaching of Matthew 18. Talk to the person you disagree with, alone. DO NOT gossip about the problem with others. If needed, later you can take another person with you should your boss not understand your difficulty.

Mat 18:15 Moreover if thy brother shall trespass against thee, go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone: if he shall hear thee, thou hast gained thy brother.

B. You have a right to disobey if:

1. If it contradicts Gods word.
2. If he asks you to do something immoral.
3. If he asks you to break a righteous law of man.
4. If he asks you to do something that will physically endanger you.
5. If he asks you to do something that is against your better conscience. For example:
 - a. The midwives feared God, in Ex. 1:15. They disobeyed their King, Pharaoh, when he told them to kill all Hebrew baby boys. God saw their hearts and dealt with them well.
 - b. We ought to obey God rather than men."(ACTS 5:29) When there has been a violation of Gods word, it is better to obey God than Man. But, you do it with a heart of submission, not Rebellion.

C. Keep a Submissive Attitude

1. David even when being hunted by Saul, and in danger of his life, refused to have a wrong spirit toward Saul. He remained humble in heart.
2. Twice the Lord brought Saul unto David. (I SAMUEL 26:5) But David never brought evil against Saul.
3. **If you can not stay under that authority leave**, but keep the attitude of submission.
4. When you recognize their authority and submit to it, even when it is wrongful authority, you may win them over. Keep the attitude of submission even when they do not deserve it.

D. Daniel had a submissive heart.

1. He showed respect for King Nebuchadnezzar in the way he addressed him. Always with complete submission.
2. God allows men to rise up even though they may resist His power, enabling Him to work in their lives and the lives of His people. Nebuchadnezzar was raised up by God to punish Judah for her sins. He was one of God's instruments of judgement.
 - a. Even though Neb. eventually realized that Daniel's God is the true God, he stills builds an idle of gold and orders all to worship it. Shadrach,

Meshach and Abednego refuse to worship it, so Neb. throws them into the furnace. But the furnace does not consume them, and Neb. sees not three men, but four men in the furnace. The 4th man is like the Son of God. (DANIEL 3:25) Neb. once again acknowledges that God is the True God.

b. The three Jewish men kept a submissive attitude with King Neb. even when he was throwing them into the furnace. They did not revile against him, but remained committed to the knowledge that God and not man held their lives in His hands. Their hearts were right with God and God delivered them.

3. Daniel, while interpreting Neb.'s dream for the second time, show respect for Neb. even when he rebuked the King because of his continued evil and selfishness. Even a rebuke can be done in humility.

a. God punished Neb. because of his pride and self exaltation. He turns him into a wild animal for 7 years.

b. Neb. humbles himself to God and is restored to his full authority.

E. Noah had a submissive heart. He was known as the Righteous Priest. After the flood, Noah got drunk and passed out naked in his tent.

- 1.** His son Ham, found him and told his brothers. Ham could have chosen to cover his father, but instead he chose to slander him.
- 2.** Shem and Japheth covered their father, without looking at his nakedness.
- 3.** Noah cursed Ham because of his disrespect and dishonor of his father. He violated his fathers authority, and choose to center in on his fathers faults.
- 4.** Even though Noah sinned, he was a righteous man. God did not change his love for Noah. Through Gods grace, he covers over our sins. LOVE covers a multitude of sins. We all have short comings, and we all will fall, but we are still loved.
- 5.** Even though Noah sinned. His sin was one of conduct. However, the sin of his son, involved a lack of submission to parental authority and rebellion against that authority. Through this we see how our flesh delights in seeing a defect in authority, when we find that defect, we feel that we can justify resisting that authority, and justify our own short comings. We do well to remember that all authority flows from God. Our responsibility is to submit where it is possible, and to show honor and humility at all times.

XI. God given Authorities that Fell:

A. Adam

- 1.** He was given all Gods authority. He was to be Gods representative on earth.

2. Adam was innocent, but not righteous. Man cannot be righteous until he has passed the test of temptation. God did not create him with spiritual maturity.
3. When he transgressed and fell, he lost all of his God given authority.

B. Eve

Woman, lost her authority. She was deceived and therefore placed under Adams authority.

C. Sons of Aaron

1. Aaron and his sons, Nadab and Abihu, were ministers before the Lord. The sons were anointed and under the authority of their father.
2. They chose to come out from under their fathers authority and offered up to the Lord their own fire. They took it upon themselves to do something God had told them not to do.

LEVITICUS 10:1 ...and offered strange fire before the Lord, which he commanded them not. And went out fire from the Lord, and devoured them

3. They showed INDEPENDENCE, and a careless regard for God's authority and holiness. Therefore, God defended His holiness and brought judgement on them. Here we see the temptation to do things because we want to and not because God told us. For example, to say "I don't want pray today" and then not pray is the same attitude of independence that was shown in the hearts of Nadab and Abihu. It is placing my desire above what we know God wants.
4. The difference in "Walking in the Holy Spirit" and "Walking in the flesh" is when we do something out from ourselves instead of being lead by the Holy Spirit.

D. Miriam and Aaron

1. They spoke against Moses. **GOD HEARD IT!**
2. Moses was Gods anointed and their brother, he held authority over them. Moses married an Ethiopian woman.
3. Miriam did not like that. "She was not 'white' like her."
4. When they rebelled against Moses, they said that God used them also, speaking to them as he spoke to Moses.

5. Their true motive was exposed. They wanted to be like Moses, their pride took over.
6. God brought judgement on them, because they came against His anointed. Miriam's punishment was harsher than Aaron's. She started it all because of her prejudice attitude against his wife.
7. Miriam did not like the dark skin color of the Ethiopian, so God made her white as snow, with leprosy.
8. From this story we learn that God's anointing always flows down from the top. Moses was God's appointed, not the others who tried to be like Moses. Moses was quiet, he didn't try to defend himself. God defended Moses' authority. Moses knew that he could not hold on to what God did not give to him. He also knew that no man could take away what God had given to him.
9. Self imposed authority will always have to defend itself while God appointed authority is defended by God.

E. Korah

1. Korah was the leader of a rebellion against Moses and Aaron in Numbers 16.
2. Pride rose up in him because he wanted to be in a position of authority.
3. Soon over 250 men are rebelling with him. These men were renowned men, leaders in the congregation.
4. All of these men were Levites. They were the chosen of God to care for the Tabernacle. They already had position.

NUMBERS 16:1- and they gathered themselves together against Moses and against Aaron, and said unto them, Ye seek too much upon you, seeing all the congregation are holy, every one of them, and the Lord is among them: wherefore then lift ye up yourselves above the congregation of the Lord?"

5. When Moses heard the accusations of the people, he "fell upon his face" in prayer to God (NUMBERS 16:4). No less than SIX TIMES did Moses fall upon his face in intercession for the people:
 - a. When God would have destroyed the people at Sinai, because of idolatry.(Deut. 9:18; EX. 32)
 - b. When the people rebelled at Kadesh-barnea, when the news came back about the Land Of Canaan. News of giants.(Deut. 9:25-26; NUM. 14:5)

- c. When Korah and his followers accused Moses and Aaron of wrong doing.(NUM. 16:4)
 - d. When God sought to destroy the congregation because of Korah's rebellion.(NUM. 16:22)
 - e. When God sought to destroy the people because they rebelled when he brought judgement on Korah and the 250 princes.(NUM. 16:45)
 - f. When the people rebelled because they had returned to Kadesh-barnea, and there was no water. (NUM. 20:6) ***It was here where Moses and Aaron sinned, they rebelled. God told them to "Speak to the Rock," but they spoke harshly to the people and "smote the rock twice." This drew attention to them, (as "well in vs 10), the source not God. This action cut them off from going into the Promised Land. (vs 12:13) When God's appointed authority abuses their authority they will answer to God! Moses was no exception.
6. God gave position to Moses, he did not "lift himself up".
- a. Moses never wanted the position.
 - b. He was always a very humble and quiet person.
 - c. He grieved in his heart for the ones that rebelled.
 - d. Moses reminded them of the position God had given them, he asked them why was this not enough?
 - e. Moses did not fight this battle. he says God will show who he wants to be in authority.
 - f. Only God promotes, if God wants you to have authority, you will have it and no one can take it from you. If you promote yourself, you will always be defending your position.
7. Dathan and Abiram, would not come up to Moses when he called them, they feared him.
- a. Rebellion blinded their eyes to what misery they left behind in Egypt. They called it a place of "Milk and Honey". (vs 13)
 - b. They said that Moses brought them there to kill them all in the wilderness, and to make himself a prince over them. They accused him of keeping them in the wilderness and not delivering them unto the "Land of milk and honey". They were ready to go back to Egypt.
 - c. They were not happy where they were when in Egypt. They're not happy where they are in the wilderness, and they don't want to go where they are supposed to go, the Promised Land, because of fear of the giants. **SOME PEOPLE WILL NEVER BE HAPPY**
8. People in rebellion do not want to be reasoned with, they just want to be right, be heard and to bring judgement on others.

9. Moses is angered, but he holds a heart of grace. He pleads with God not to destroy all. God brings judgment on Korah, Dathan and Abiram first, and more severely than the others.
 - a. Wives, sons and little children of these three are judged with them. Rebellion spreads and effects all. It is like a cancer or contagious disease.
 - b. The ground opened up and swallowed them alive into the pit.
10. God brought judgement on the 250 princes, (vs 35) "a fire from the Lord consumed them all." The people came up against Moses and Aaron once again. They were angered over the judgement and deaths of the princes.
11. God is brought to anger again. (vs 45) After this display of God's wrath and justice you would think people would be careful concerning their questioning of God's authority. However,
 - a. Once again Moses pleads for the people to God.
 - b. Gods wrath brought judgement and a plaque fell on the congregation. He brings death. Aaron follows Moses' commands and stands in the middle of life and death, making atonement for the sins of the people. The plaque of DEATH stops. (This represents Jesus atonement for our sins at the Cross.)
12. God once again shows the people he chooses Aaron over all the others. They all bring rods to the tabernacle, and out of a dead rod, God brings forth life to Aaron's rod alone. (This represents Jesus' resurrection from death.)
13. We can learn from the example of Moses. When God does use us:
 - a. stay humble
 - b. do not get proud or serve yourself
 - c. do not get dissatisfied and want more
 - d. Gods calling is permanent.(vs 17:10), only he can remove it.

XII. The Flow of Anointing

- A. When your going to a church, you should be called to that church by God.
 1. If you feel called to a church, then you are to submit to the Pastor as God's appointed Shepherd.
 2. That Pastor is your shepherd, he has accountability to God for you. Spiritual Authority and anointing flows down from God, to the Pastor, to the Pastors under him, to the Elders under them, to the Deacons under them, to the Volunteers under them, and to the congregation under them ...
 3. If you find yourself unhappy and murmuring, either you are not where God has called you to be or God is working something out in your heart. It is very important to ask God to expose the true motive of our hearts to us so we are not deceived. We must guard against becoming our own authority. If you find that your are unable to

continue to SUBMIT to that Pastor and his vision, then you should consider leaving that church. But if you are to leave you must do so in the right way.

4. You should submit to that Pastor as long as you are there. Never rebel against your Pastor, and never murmur to others about your views, always take your problems and difference of opinion to the Pastor. If the problem has to do with a moral failure by the Pastor, go to him first, and if need be then to those in Spiritual Authority over him. You should by no means use the situation to draw attention to yourself, or to make yourself look spiritual at someone else's expense. One does not become more significant by stepping on others.
5. Being submissive to authority, and under another's anointing, does not mean that you will always have to agree with them. How you handle disagreement shows what is truly in your heart. If you can submit, without agreement then do so, and let God work it out. If you cannot continue, then explain your feelings to the pastor, and with him make the necessary arrangements for you to leave quietly, without bring strife and division to the body. Allow God to deal with any problems that are left behind.

XIII. DO NOT be Deceived.

A. If angels can be deceived, think how easily man can be deceived.

1. Consider carefully the source of the words you listen to. Remember that we are instructed to "test the spirits" whether they are of God.

1 John 4:1-3 Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world. 4:2 Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God: 4:3 And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that spirit of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world.

2. Be cautious of those who claim to be Prophets of God
 - a. God has given the ministry of the prophet to the church for edification and exhortation. This is usually seen in faithful men and women who have this anointing for service.
 - b. However, some people give that position to themselves and often function in their own power, not the anointing of the Holy Spirit.
3. Those that have a true ministry from God, can be identified by:
 - a. Their submission to godly authority

- b. The proof of their fruitfulness
4. All gifts are under authority:
 - a. 1st Gods authority
 - b. 2nd to other authority in the body of Christ (the church). Each gift should willingly be under authority. Beware of those who say they need no other authority.
 5. The scripture tells us to judge the words of a prophet realizing that the spirit of the prophet is subject to the prophet. In other words a person's inner being or human spirit is likely to be reflected in their words of prophesy. A person with a gentle loving spirit is likely to speak words that reflect that inner spirit. A person who is harsh and critical is likely to speak in such a manner. But keep in mind that words spoken softly can be a deception, and words which are spoken sternly can be of God. Therefore, we need the Holy Spirit to help us discern whether or not the words spoken are in line with the Spirit of God and His Word regardless of the spirit of the prophet. Note that the words of a prophet are to be judged. I personally believe that when a prophet speaks in a formal church assembly that those who are recognized as spiritual leaders within the assembly should judge the word as to whether it is of God.

1 Cor 14:29-32 Let the prophets speak two or three, and **let the other judge.** 14:30 If any thing be revealed to another that sitteth by, let the first hold his peace. 14:31 For ye may all prophesy one by one, that all may learn, and all may be comforted. 14:32 And **the spirits of the prophets are subject to the prophets.**

B. A prophet brings comfort and edification to God's people. He can also bring confirmation to God's word and God's will. I do not encourage people to receive a personal prophesy from someone who's ministry they are not familiar. God does use other people in our lives, but He can also bring confirmation to us so that we are not misguided by people with good intentions, but who are not being led by the Holy Spirit.

XIV. The Source of A Christian's Power and The Legal Basis of Our Authority

MATTHEW 28:18- "And Jesus came and spake unto them saying, **All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth ..**

MATTHEW 18:18- "Verily **I say unto you,** Whatsoever ye shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever ye shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

MARK 16:17- "and these signs shall follow them that believe; **In my name** shall they cast out devils, they shall speak with-new tongues ...

- A. The SOURCE of the BELIEVERS power is "In the Name of Jesus."** The Father has given all power & authority to the Son who has delegated that power & authority to His followers.
- B.** Everything God does, he does confirming the legal basis or our authority.

GENESIS 1:26- "and God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: **and let them have dominion** over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth."

1. God gave man authority. Our legal basis of authority resides in the fact that God has given that authority. God Himself abides by His laws and commands. Laws are used to bring order to man kind.
2. Redemption is a legal matter, from beginning to end.
 - a. Man had a legal right over all earth, which was given to him by God.
 - b. He had that dominion, until he sinned.
 - c. He rebelled believing Satan's lies rather than God's truth.
 - d. Adam, and all mankind in his loins, became a servant to Satan at that time.
 - Adam lost fellowship with God.
 - Adam lost eternal life with God. Whether or not he regained it by faith the scripture does not give a clear indication. There are those who believe that as Abel knew the correct sacrifice that Adam may have instructed his sons, but God may have instructed them as well, there is also the possible testimony of Eve (Gen. 4:1 some translations believe the word "from" was inserted, and if so could indicate that she believed her 1st son was the Lord, their redeemer. Again this is not believed to be so by most translations.) We do know that God offered sacrifice for them, which in the least is a type of redemption through the blood, but throughout the O.T. faith is still required in the sacrifice for sin to be forgiven. Many offered sacrifices without faith and walked away in their sin. Whether Adam walked in faith or not is unclear and therefore can not be determined either way.
 - Adam lost his legal claim and dominion over the earth.

ROMANS 6:16- "Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey his servant ye are to whom ye obey, whether of sin unto death or of obedience unto righteousness."

- e. As Adam yielded to Satan, Satan claimed that dominion. Satan held the legal right over the earth.

- f. Satan is called "The god of this World." 2 Cor. 4:4; (see also John 12:31, 14:30, 16:11)

2 Cor 4:4 In whom the **god of this world** hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.

C. God is a God of justice, and grace.

1. God could not violate his own system of justice, He had to follow his own laws and rules. He is a Righteous God at all times.
2. Man lost the authority, only a man could reclaim it.
3. A slave of sin has no rights. No right to make a claim on what he lost.
4. It had to be a human being, but someone with no sin, someone Satan had no claim on.

LEVITICUS 25:23- "The land shall not be sold forever for the land is mine; ... ye shall grant a redemption for the land ... if any of his kin come to redeem it, than shall he redeem it that which his brother sold."

5. We see from God's law concerning the redemption of the land that the land could be redeemed by someone related by blood.
6. Redemption is a RIGHT BY BLOOD. The nearest kinsman had the right of redemption. We see examples of the "Kinsman Redeemer" in the following passages:
 - LEVITICUS 25:23
 - NUMBERS 27:11
 - RUTH chapter 3 & 4
7. Jesus, the perfect man, paid the price of our redemption at Calvary. He bore our sin and guilt setting us free to be the children of God, and heirs of God.. Thus the authority Adam lost Jesus Christ regained by shedding His blood at Calvary.

GALATIANS 4:4- "But when the fullness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of woman, made under the Law, to redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons."

8. Jesus, made of woman born of a virgin. The seed of sin passes only through man. Thus because man had nothing to do with the conception of Christ the chain of sin was broken.

D. Jesus fulfilled every law established by God.

1. What Adam lost, Jesus Christ took back.
2. Jesus Christ was very man, but very God.
3. Jesus was flesh, he could be tempted.
4. Satan tried to cause Jesus to do something out of his self. He tempted him to do something not of God. But Jesus stood on the Word of God.

E. God gave us all authority, we have legal authority and every right to claim it.

LUKE 10: 19- "Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you."

Jesus took the keys of death and hell from Satan and made a way for the captives to escape. Thus paradise was lifted to heaven from the lower parts of the earth (Eph. 4:8-10).

REVELATION 1:18- "I am he that liveth, and was dead; and behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the KEYS of hell and of death."

F. Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God, is the only one Worthy!

REVELATION 5:1- 2 "and I saw in the right hand of him that sat on the throne a book written within and on the backside, sealed with seven seals a strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice, **Who is worthy to open this book** and to loose the seals thereof?..."

1. This book is the title deed to the earth, which Adam lost.
2. This is a vision God allowed John to see. John begins to weep, because there is no one worthy, no one righteous stepping forward to open the book.

REVELATION 5:5 "...and one of the elders saith unto me, weep not; behold the Lion of the tribe of Judah, hath prevailed to open the book and to loose the seven seals thereof."

Jesus steps forward as the only one worthy to open the book as He has redeemed man from the power of sin and death. Thus He holds all authority in heaven and earth.

1 Cor 15:24 Then cometh the end, when he shall have delivered up the kingdom to God, even the Father; when he shall have put down all rule and all authority and power.

Until this time comes, we as followers of Christ are to walk in the authority He has given to us as heirs of the Kingdom, yet being under authority we are to walk in humility, as servants, and giving honor to those in authority over us.