

Work Of The Church (I)

Authority

Introductory Passages

Jer.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.

Ro.10:17, So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

Mt.7:21, Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven...

Mt.28:18, And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth...."

Authority < 'it is lawful'

Power to do something: Mt.21:23, Now when He came into the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people confronted Him as He was teaching, and said, "By what authority are You doing these things? And who gave You this authority?"

Permission to act: Mt.21:24, But Jesus answered and said to them, "I also will ask you one thing, which if you tell Me, I likewise will tell you by what authority I do these things..."

Authority < 'it is lawful'

- Only two choices: Mt.21:25, The baptism of John—where was it from? From heaven or from men?”

I. Necessity Of Authority

Dt.4:2, changing His word prevents doing His will

You shall not add to the word which I command you, nor take from it, that you may keep the commandments of the Lord your God which I command you.

Prov.30:6, how to become a liar

Do not add to His words, Lest He rebuke you,
and you be found a liar.

Phil.3:16, learning how to walk

Nevertheless, to the degree that we have already attained, let us walk by the same rule, let us be of the same mind.

Col.3:17, comprehensive coverage

And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.

1 Tim.1:3, don't go there

As I urged you when I went into Macedonia—
remain in Ephesus that you may charge some
that they teach no other doctrine

I. Necessity Of Authority

II. Chain Of Authority

God has spoken (Hb.1:1)

- God has spoken through His Son (Hb.1:2)
- ...by the Holy Spirit (Jn.15:26-27)
- Holy Spirit guided apostles into all truth (John 16:13).
 - Explains their authoritative decrees, Gal.1.
- Apostles wrote Lord's will, 1 Co.14:37.
- Epistles were not mere private letters, but written to / for all: 1 Co.1:2; 4:17. Col.4:16

I. Necessity Of Authority

II. Chain Of Authority

III. How Does God
Express Authority?

God speaks authoritatively through . . .

- Statement or command. Mk.16:16; Ac.2:38.
1 Co.11:23-24.
- Approved example. Ac.8:38. Ac.20:7
 - NT commands us to follow approved examples, Ph.3:17; 4:9.
- Forced conclusion (necessary conclusion / necessary inference / necessary implication)
Ac.8:38. Ac.20:7. Ex.20:8

I. Necessity Of Authority

II. Chain Of Authority

III. How ...Express Authority?

IV. General And
Specific Authority

General Authority Includes Specific Authority Excludes

- Gn.6, ark
- Lv.10, fire
- Num.4, ark of covenant
- Ro.6:4, baptism
- Ep.5:19, singing
- Hb.10:25, assemble

I. Necessity Of Authority

II. Chain Of Authority

III. How ...Express Authority?

IV. General/specific Authority

V. Silence Of Scriptures

Do not presume to speak where God is silent

- Lv.24:10-16
- 1 Co.4:6
- Ac.15:23-24

Implications of this truth

- Mechanical music in worship
- Burning incense, counting beads...
- Church sponsored gymnasiums, recreation
- Church sponsored schools, businesses