

# AUTHORITY

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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