

# Authority Applied

# We recognize need for authority . . .

- Money
- Weights / measurements
- Time
- Traffic
- Government
- Religion
  - Jn.8:46
  - Tit.2:15

# I. Two Philosophies of Authority

## Mt.21:23-27, one question, two forms

23: 'these things' ?? Jews were out to get Him

- a. 1-11: His royal entry into Jerusalem
- b. 12-13: His violence against 'sacred' temple
- c. 14-17: His adoration by the common people (cf. 15, 9).
- d. 18: His object lesson – fig...
- e. 23: His teaching was convincing the common people. Mt.26:47

24: Lord does not criticize them for asking questions

## Mt.21:23-27

25a: Lord shows only two possible sources of authority: *heaven* or *men*

- If John's authority is from heaven, that settles the issue. Jn.1:34, And I have seen and have borne witness that this is the Son of God

25b-26: Jewish dishonesty – no courage of convictions

27: professed law 'experts' admit ignorance of Law. He exposed partisan dishonesty

## Mt.21:23-27

Illustrates two possible sources of authority –

1. **External** – calls on subjects to submit their will to God (Heaven). “Bible says...”
2. **Internal** – elevates personal judgment as last word in determining authority (Men).  
“I think . . . I feel...”

# We must recognize Divine authority

Authority exists whether we recognize it or not.

Lk.19:11-27 . . .

11: parable...because He nears Jerusalem

12-13: nobleman

- [Herod the great...son Archelaus...]

14: Archelaus slew 3000 during Passover  
(Mt.2:22)

15: He received kingdom; inspected servants

# We must recognize Divine authority

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Lk.19:11-27 . . .

16-17: first: mina + ten more

18-19: second: mina + five more

20-21: third: kept in hanky; fear austere

22-23: pronounced own sentence

24-26: principle of judgment

27: sober ending



## Main focus on servants

Servants: 1 Co.4<sup>1</sup> Let a man so consider us, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God. <sup>2</sup>Moreover it is required in stewards that one be found faithful.

Jn.12<sup>48</sup> He who rejects Me, and does not receive My words, has that which judges him – the word that I have spoken will judge him in the last day.

- Principle: use it or lose it
- It matters what we do with His 'mina.'  
[spouse / children / money / friends / church...]

I. Two Philosophies of Authority

II. The Necessity of Authority

## Deut.4:2

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.

- To add / subtract from Word is NOT keeping His commandments
- Jeroboam
- Mt.15:9

## Josh.1:7

Be strong and very courageous, that you may observe to do according to all the law which Moses My servant commanded you; do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left

- This is “nit-picky”??
- “I did it My way”??
- Jg.6, Gideon and his army . . .

## Jer.6:16

Stand in the ways and see, And ask for the old paths, where the good way is, And walk in it; Then you will find rest for your souls. But they said, We will not walk in it

- Only the old gospel can save

## 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

- Commentary on Pr.14:12, There is a way that seems right to a man, But its end is the way of death
- Saul of Tarsus thought he was doing the right thing when persecuting Christians

## Mt.7:21-23

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. 22 Many will say to Me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?' 23 And then I will declare to them, I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!

- Live as though there were no laws – L-N
- 22: they try to negotiate with God

## Mt.28:18-20

18 And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. 19 Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”



## Gal.1:6-9

6 I marvel that you are turning away so soon from Him who called you in the grace of Christ, to a different gospel, 7 which is not another; but there are some who trouble you and want to pervert the gospel of Christ. 8 But even if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached to you, let him be accursed. 9 As we have said before, so now I say again, if anyone preaches any other gospel to you than what you have received, let him be accursed

- Gal.5:4

## Eph.5:24

24 Therefore, just as the church is subject to Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything.

- Some churches despise His authority

# Phil.3:16

16 let us walk by the same rule, let us be of the same mind

- Truth unites

## Col.3:17

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

- Comprehensive coverage

# 1 Tim. 1:3

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

- *Charge*: command, give orders; no multiple choice...

## 2 Tim.3:16-17

16 All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness,  
17 that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work

- Respect silence of Scripture

## James 2:10

10 For whoever shall keep the whole law, and yet stumble in one point, he is guilty of all

- Jews: 'he who transgresses all the precepts of law has broken the yoke, dissolved the covenant, and exposed the law to contempt; and so has he done who has only broken one precept.'
- They added: 'That he who observed any principle command was equal to him who kept the whole law.'

## 1 Pt.4:11

11 If anyone speaks, let him speak as the oracles of God

- Oracles of God – a divine saying



## 2 Jn.9

9 Whoever transgresses and does not abide in the doctrine of Christ does not have God. He who abides in the doctrine of Christ has both the Father and the Son.

- Transgresses – anyone who does not remain in the teaching of Christ but goes beyond it’ – L-N

## Rv.22:18-19

18 For I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: If anyone adds to these things, God will add to him the plagues that are written in this book; 19 and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part from the Book of Life, from the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book

- Final warning against adding to or taking from Scripture

I. Two Philosophies of Authority

II. The Necessity of Authority

III. What Do These  
Passages Teach Us?

1. It is wise to avoid danger.

## Acts 27

- God's grace saved them
- It was conditional

## 2. It is wise to avoid dangers that threaten our soul.

Hb.2<sup>1</sup> Therefore we must give the more earnest heed to the things we have heard, lest we drift away. <sup>2</sup> For if the word spoken thru angels proved steadfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just reward, <sup>3</sup> how shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation, which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed to us by those who heard Him