

The Need For Authority

Mt. 21:23-27



Authority 2, the need for it

The Need For Authority

- Why Ask This Question Among The Lord's People?
- Preachers In Lord's Church Don't Understand



Basis Every Departure From Truth

- Misunderstanding Of Concept Of Authority
- Lack Of Respect For God's Authority
- Substitute Divine Will For Human Will
- False Brethren In The Church
 - Under Right Circumstances Will Surface
 - As Teachers of Error and Enemies of Truth



Authority Defined

- **Strong's Exhaustive Concordance**
 - ἐξουσία 1849 [*exousia* /ex-oo-see-ah/] n f.
 - 103 occurrences KJV
 - “Power” 69 times
 - “Authority” 29 times
 - “Right” twice
 - “Liberty” once
 - “Jurisdiction” once



Authority Defined

- **Composite Picture**
 - The right to legislate (make laws)
 - The right and power to enforce those laws
 - The legal right as a King in his domain
 - The raw power to punish all violators



Need For Authority Universal

1. State – Order Society, punishment
2. School – Order school, discipline
3. Home – Order Home Individual
4. Religion – Order Religious Life



1. Authority of the State

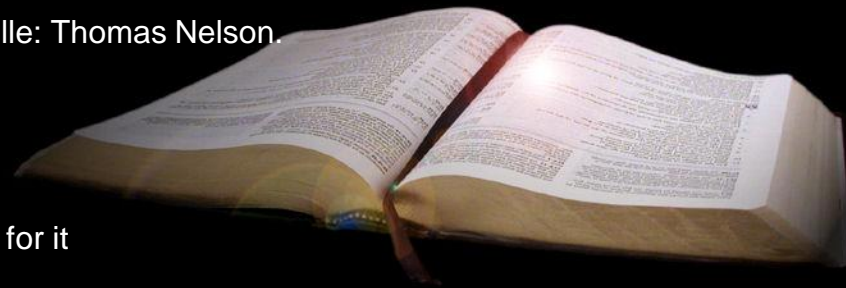
Authority 2, the need for it



God Established The State

- Rom. 13:1-2 – Powers Ordained of God
- Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God. 2 Therefore whoever resists the authority resists the ordinance of God, and those who resist will bring judgment on themselves.

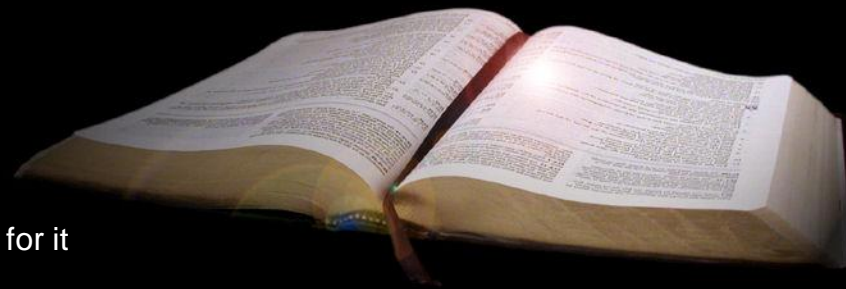
— The New King James Version. 1982 (Ro 13:12). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.



God Established The State

- Rom. 13:3-4a – Minister of Good
- For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to evil. Do you want to be unafraid of the authority? Do what is good, and you will have praise from the same. 4 For he is God's minister to you for good.

— The New King James Version. 1982 (Ro 13:34). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.



God Established The State

- Rom. 13:4b – Minister of Judgment
- But if you do evil, be afraid; for he does not bear the sword in vain; for he is God's minister, an avenger to *execute* wrath on him who practices evil.



God Established The State

- Rom. 13:5-7 – God’s ministers
- Therefore *you* must be subject, not only because of wrath but also for conscience’ sake. 6 For because of this you also pay taxes, for they are God’s ministers attending continually to this very thing. 7 Render therefore to all their due: taxes to whom taxes *are due*, customs to whom customs, fear to whom fear, honor to whom honor.

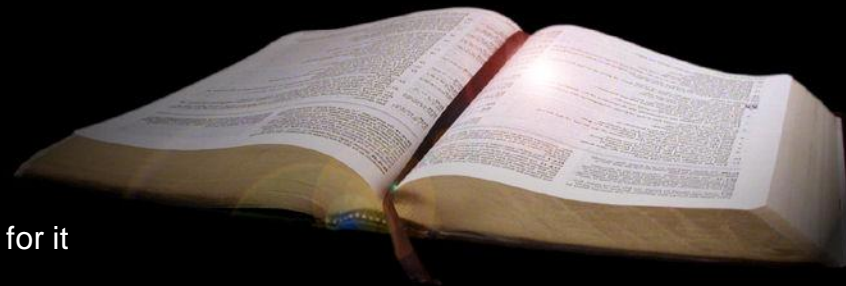


Need Is Universal

- Government

- Under Authority

- State teaches respect for law
 - State rewards good behavior
 - State punishes evil behavior



Need Is Universal

- Government

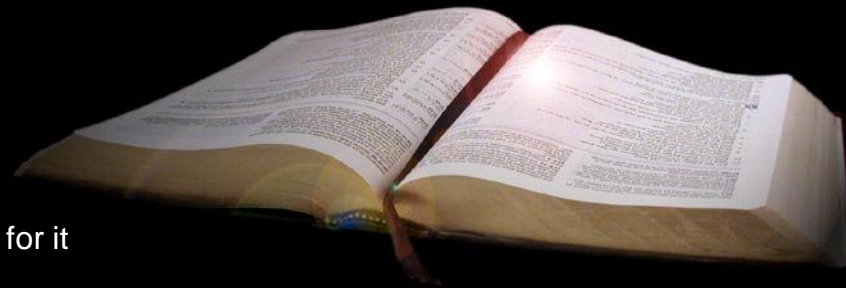
- Without Authority

- Legislative breakdown
 - Moral breakdown
 - Societal breakdown (lawlessness)
 - Administration defies constitution
 - Occupy Wallstreet – Anarchy
 - Contrary to will of God for government



2. Authority of the School

Authority 2, the need for it



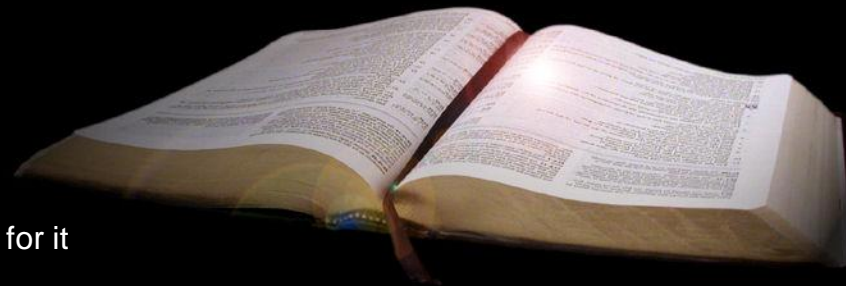
Authority Derived From State

- School Under Authority/Discipline
 - Learn to respect parental authority
 - Learn civic responsibilities
 - Learn to be productive members of society
 - Benefit to national growth and morality



Authority Derived From State

- School Without Authority/Discipline
 - Learn to defy authority of parents in the home
 - Learn to defy government, legal system
 - Learns to defy God's authority
 - Learn to be leaches on society
 - Leads to breakdown of society
 - Contrary to will of God



3. Authority of the Home

Authority 2, the need for it



God Established The Home

- Gen. 2:18 – God’s design for man
- And the Lord God said, “*It is not good that man should be alone; I will make him a helper comparable to him.*”



God Established The Home

- Gen. 2:19-20 – God shows man's need
- Out of the ground the Lord God formed every beast of the field and every bird of the air, and brought *them* to Adam to see what he would call them. And whatever Adam called each living creature, that *was* its name. 20 So Adam gave names to all cattle, to the birds of the air, and to every beast of the field. But for Adam there was not found a helper comparable to him.



God Established The Home

- Gen. 2:21-22 – God’s Solution
- And the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall on Adam, and he slept; and He took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh in its place. 22 Then the rib which the Lord God had taken from man He made into a woman, and He brought her to the man.



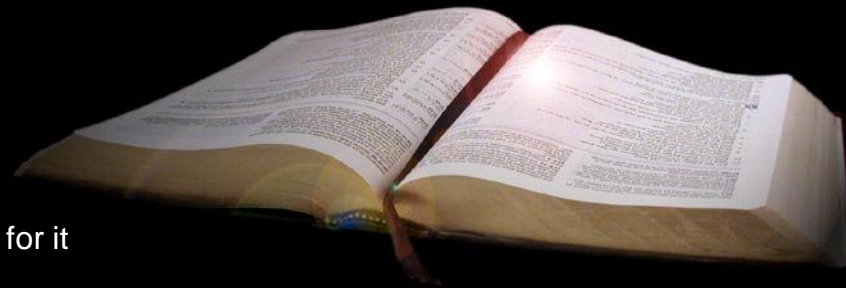
God Established The Home

- Gen. 2:23-24 – God Creates Home
- And Adam said: “This *is* now bone of my bones And flesh of my flesh; She shall be called Woman, Because she was taken out of Man.” 24 Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.



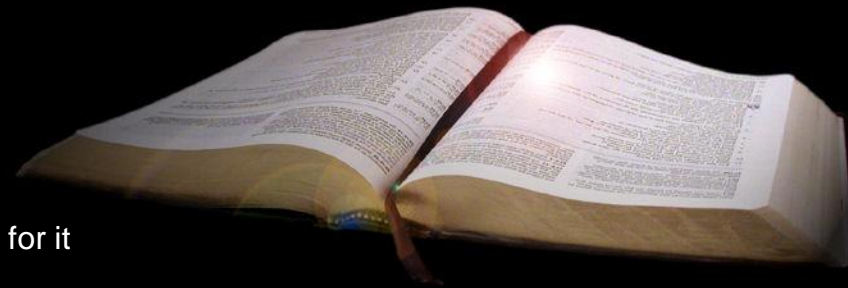
God Ordered the Home

- Eph. 6:1-3 – Children Obey Parents
“Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right. 2 Honor thy father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise; 3 that it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth.”



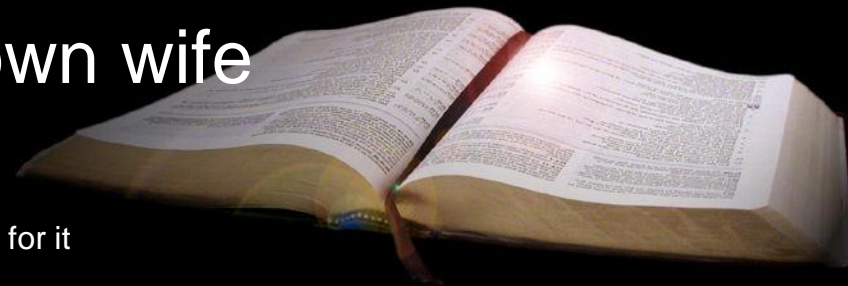
God Ordered the Home

- Eph. 5:22-24 – *Wives, be subject to your own husbands, as to the Lord. 23 For the husband is the head of the wife, as Christ also is the head of the church, He Himself being the Savior of the body. 24 But as the church is subject to Christ, so also the wives ought to be to their husbands in everything.”*



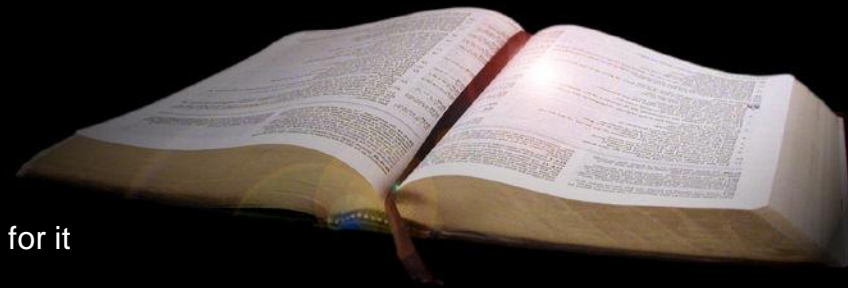
God Ordered the Home

- Eph. 5:25-28 – Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her, 26 so that He might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, 27 that He might present to Himself the church in all her glory, having no spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that she would be holy and blameless. 28 So husbands ought also to love their own wives as their own bodies. He who loves his own wife loves himself



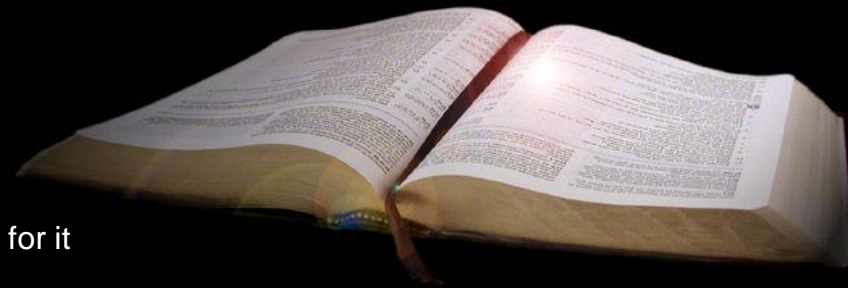
Authority Derived From God

- Home Under Authority/Discipline
 - Learn to respect parental authority
 - Husband and wife learns to respect each other
 - Learn to respect God's authority
 - Children learn civic responsibilities
 - Learn to be productive members of society
 - Benefit to national growth and morality



Authority Derived From God

- Home Without Authority/Discipline
 - Learn to defy authority, parental control
 - Learn to defy God's authority
 - Learn to defy government, legal system
 - Learn to be leaches on society
 - Leads to breakdown of society
 - Contrary to will of God for the home



4. Authority In Religion

Authority 2, the need for it



Application of Authority

- Only Two Possible Sources Of Religious
 - Heaven (God)
 - Earth (men)



N.T. Usage

- Mt. 21:23 – Confrontation, by what authority?
- 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?”



N.T. Usage

- Mt. 21:24-25 – Jesus’ Response
- 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: 25 The baptism of John—where was it from? From heaven or from men?”



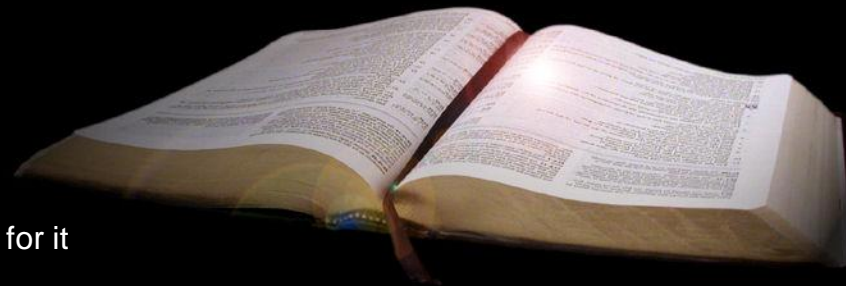
N.T. Usage

- Mt. 21:25b-27 – Application Dilemma
- And they reasoned among themselves, saying, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ He will say to us, ‘Why then did you not believe him?’ 26 But if we say, ‘From men,’ we fear the multitude, for all count John as a prophet.” 27 So they answered Jesus and said, “We do not know.”



N.T. Usage

- Mt. 21:25b-27 – Jesus' Response
- And He said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I do these things.



End Of All Working With AND Without Authority

- Mt. 7:21-23
- “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!’”

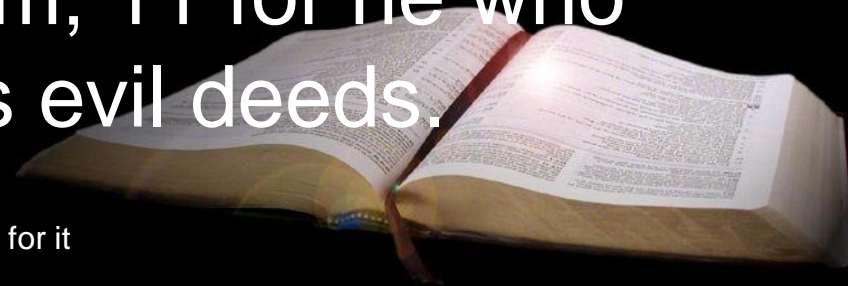
End Of All Working Without Authority

- Col. 2:20-23
- Therefore, if you died with Christ from the basic principles of the world, why, as *though* living in the world, do you subject yourselves to regulations— 21 “Do not touch, do not taste, do not handle,” 22 which all concern things which perish with the using— according to the commandments and doctrines of men? 23 These things indeed have an appearance of wisdom in self-imposed religion, *false* humility, and neglect of the body, *but are* of no value against the indulgence of the flesh.



End Of All Working With AND Without Authority

- 2 John 9-11
- 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.
10 If anyone comes to you and does not bring this doctrine, do not receive him into your house nor greet him; 11 for he who greets him shares in his evil deeds.



Conclusion – Always Ask

- Is practice authorized by God or men?
 - If practice from heaven accept it
 - If practice from men reject it
- What is the source of that authority?

