

THE ISSUE OF AUTHORITY
Part Three: The Purpose of Authority

Scriptures: Matthew 8:5-10,13;
John 5:19-23,26,27

SUNDAY AUGUST 15, 2010

WHY WE HAVE AUTHORITY

AUTHORITY EXISTS:

1. For purposes of ORDER.
2. For purposes of PRODUCTIVITY, PROSPERITY and MEANINGFUL ENDEAVOR.
3. For purposes of ACCOUNTABILITY.
4. For purposes of PROTECTION.
5. For purposes of HARMONY.

AUTHORITY IS:

1. EXERCISED.
2. DERIVED.
3. CONFERRED or DELEGATED usually by virtue of:
 - A. POSITION or OFFICE.
 - B. ROLE or FUNCTION.
 - C. ABILITY or TRAINING.

ADDITIONAL PRINCIPLES

1. Authority exists within the GODHEAD - there is a CHAIN of COMMAND.
2. God's authority is INHERENT and without limitations or boundaries while man's authority is derived from, or conferred by, God and has both limitations and boundaries.
3. Authority when exercised as assigned and intended is useful and beneficial but when ABUSED or MISAPPLIED brings about DISCORD, SUFFERING and GREAT HARM.

RESPONSIVE READING

Matthew 8:5-10,13; John 5:19-23,26,27

When Jesus had entered Capernaum, a centurion came to him, asking for help. "Lord," he said, "my servant lies at home paralyzed and in terrible suffering."

Jesus said to him, "I will go and heal him."

The centurion replied, "Lord, I do not deserve to have you come under my roof. But just say the word, and my servant will be healed.

For I myself am a man under authority, with soldiers under me. I tell this one, 'Go,' and he goes; and that one, 'Come,' and he comes. I say to my servant, 'Do this,' and he does it."

When Jesus heard this, he was astonished and said to those following him, "I tell you the truth, I have not found anyone in Israel with such great faith."

Then Jesus said to the centurion, "Go! It will be done just as you believed it would." And his servant was healed at that very hour.

Jesus gave them this answer: "I tell you the truth, the Son can do nothing by himself; he can do only what he sees his Father doing, because whatever the Father does the Son also does.

For the Father loves the Son and shows him all he does. Yes, to your amazement he will show him even greater things than these.

For just as the Father raises the dead and gives them life, even so the Son gives life to whom he is pleased to give it.

Moreover, the Father judges no one, but has entrusted all judgment to the Son, that all may honor the Son just as they honor the Father.

He who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father, who sent him.

For as the Father has life in himself, so he has granted the Son to have life in himself. And he has given him authority to judge because he is the Son of Man.