

# **SPIRITUAL AUTHORITY**

**WORKBOOK**

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**HOUSE ON THE ROCK**

**WORKERS TRAINING WORKBOOK VOL II**

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“And it shall come to pass, that the man’s rod, whom I shall choose, shall blossom ... “ ... And, behold, the rod of Aaron for the house of Levi was budded, and brought forth buds, and blossomed blossoms, and yielded almonds. (Numbers 17: 5 ,8)

Aaron’s rod was no different from the others. It was God’s mercy, choice and resurrection power that caused it to bud, bloom and bring forth fruit. God used this supernatural event to demonstrate that spiritual authority is not based upon ability or eloquence, personal merit or position, manipulation or covetousness, but by Divine choice. That principle still holds true. God chooses individuals to exercise spiritual authority not because they are different from the rest, but on the basis of His grace, election and resurrection power. Therefore, we must remember that whatever we have of spirituality or authority is due to God’s own power working in us, for only His resurrection life can cause us to bud, bloom and bring forth fruit that remains.

Prayerfully Yours,

Paul A. Adefarasin

## **INTRODUCTION**

### **WHY THIS STUDY GUIDE WAS WRITTEN**

An ancient Chinese proverb says: “I hear and I forget; I see and I remember; I do and I understand.” That is why this study guide to accompany Watchman Nee’s text, *SPIRITUAL AUTHORITY* was prepared for you, the student. We are confident that this material can help you learn more efficiently and thoroughly.

As you do the various activities we have outlined for you, you will gain an understanding of the key concepts and principles of spiritual authority and perhaps, as a growing Christian, you will gain a better understanding of yourself and other people in relation to these concepts and principles, develop deeper sensitivities towards leadership, and adopt biblical attitudes and beliefs regarding spiritual authority. When those things happen in your life, congratulations are in order. You’re ready to take that next step in God’s plan for your life!

### **USING THIS STUDY GUIDE**

For each chapter of the textbook, this Study Guide has a lesson consisting of four parts.

#### **FOUNDATION:**

##### **RIGHTLY DIVIDING THE WORD OF TRUTH**

The first part of each lesson lists the primary scripture texts upon which the material in the chapter is based. Though some of the verses are written out in your textbook at the beginning of each chapter, you will probably want to read them up in your own Bible and mark them for future reference.

#### **PREVIEW**

##### **IDENTIFYING IMPORTANT POINTS**

The second part of each lesson gives a brief description of each chapter. It singles out some of the most important points in the chapter and alerts you to “be on the look out” for them as you read.

#### **FEEDBACK**

##### **AIDING COMPREHENSION AND RETENTION**

The third part of each lesson consists of study questions arranged in the order that the material is read in the text and alerts you as to exactly what you should have learned from the chapter. To aid your study, the page number in the text on which the correct answer can be found follows each question. You should do the completion items after you have read the chapter. This will make comprehension and retention of the material much easier and also will demonstrate that you understand the principles and concepts presented in the chapter.

#### **TRANSFER**

##### **PUTTING TRUTH INTO PRACTICE**

The fourth part of each lesson consists of thought-provoking questions or brief assignments that help you think through the text material and assist you in discerning, acknowledging, internalizing and applying truth.

## **ENSURING EFFECTIVE LEARNING**

To gain the maximum benefit from this study, we recommend that you work through the material in this order:

1. Look up each scripture reference listed under FOUNDATION and read the verse or passages thoughtfully and carefully.
2. Study the PREVIEW, and then glance through the chapter headings in the text to form an idea of what the chapter covers.
3. Read the chapter actively. Circle page numbers on which key concepts are mentioned. Underline important principles. Jot down notes in the margin as you read. Remember that your textbook should look as though it has been used, not preserved for posterity!
4. Complete the FEEDBACK items. Where necessary, refer to the appropriate page or pages in the text to ensure your comprehension of the material.
5. Respond to the TRANSFER items. Ask the Holy Spirit to lead you into all truth and to make you a doer of the Word not just a hearer.
6. Check your responses to the FEEDBACK items by the answer key printed at the end of the chapter. Make any necessary corrections. If you have a question about a particular response, make a note to ask your instructor about it later.

Now that you are ready to begin using this study guide, we pray God's blessing upon you as you begin the study of one of the most important and thought-provoking subjects you will ever consider: Spiritual Authority.

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**PART ONE**

**AUTHORITY & SUBJECTION**

# CHAPTER ONE

## THE IMPORTANCE OF AUTHORITY

### THE IMPORTANCE OF AUTHORITY



#### **FOUNDATION: RIGHTLY DIVIDING THE WORD OF TRUTH**

Romans 13: 1-7, Hebrews 1:3, Isaiah 14: 12-14, Matthew 6:13, Matthew 26: 62-64



#### **PREVIEW: IDENTIFYING IMPORTANT POINTS**

The main purposes of chapter one are (1) to help those who desire to serve to know the authority of God by making plain the two principles in the universe: the principle of God's authority and the principle of satanic rebellion; and (2) to emphasize the two important matters in the universe: trusting in God's salvation and obeying his authority.

Another goal of the chapter is to acquaint the reader with principles that will recur throughout the text.



#### **FEEDBACK: AIDING COMPREHENSION AND RETENTION**

**DIRECTIONS:** Check your basic understanding of the material in the text by choosing the correct response for each question. Using your textbook *Spiritual Authority* as a guide, answer the following questions by circling the correct response, TRUE or FALSE.

### **GOD'S THRONE ESTABLISHED ON AUTHORITY**

- TRUE/FALSE 1. According to Romans 13: 1, God alone is authority in all things: all the authorities of the earth are instituted by Him.

### **THE ORIGIN OF SATAN**

- TRUE/FALSE 2. The archangel turned into Satan when he overreached God's authority, competed with God, and became an adversary of God; thus, rebellion was the cause of Satan's fall (pp.10, 11).

- TRUE/FALSE 3. According to Matthew 6:13 ("For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever"), the kingdom, authority, and glory belong to God and to God alone (p.12)

## **AUTHORITY, THE CONTROVERSY OF THE UNIVERSE**

- TRUE/FALSE 4. The controversy of the universe is centered on who shall have authority (p.12).
- TRUE/FALSE 5. We do not obey man, but God's authority in that man (p.12).
- TRUE/FALSE 6. God has purposed to manifest His authority to the world through the worlds' system of government, not through the church (p.13).

## **OBEDIENCE TO GOD'S WILL THE GREATEST DEMAND OF THE BIBLE**

- TRUE/FALSE 7. The greatest of God's demands on man is not for him to bear the cross, to serve, give offerings, or deny himself. The greatest demand is for him to obey (p.13).
- TRUE/FALSE 8. The reason Samuel told Saul that obedience is better than sacrifice is that even in sacrifice there can be an element of self-will. Obedience alone is absolutely honouring to God, for it alone takes God's will as its center (p.13).

## **OUR LORD'S PRAYER IN GETHSEMANE**

- TRUE/FALSE 9. To serve God, we are not called to choose self-denial or sacrifice; rather we are called to fulfil God's purpose (p.15).

## **TO SEE AUTHORITY REQUIRES A GREAT REVELATION**

- TRUE/FALSE 10. I John 3:4 defines sin as lawlessness (p.16)
- TRUE/FALSE 11. There are two principles in the universe: (a) the principle of God's authority, and (b) the principle of satanic rebellion (p.16).
- TRUE/FALSE 12. There is two important matters in the universe: (a) trusting in God's salvation and (b) obeying God's authority (p.16).
- TRUE/FALSE 13. Satan laughs when a rebellious person preaches the Word, for in that person is dwelling the satanic principle of rebellion (p.17).
- TRUE/FALSE 14. The principle of service must be talent and personality, not authority (p.17).



### **TRANSFER: PUTTING TRUTH INTO PRACTICE**

Take a few minutes to reflect upon the principles and concepts presented in this lesson and apply them to your own life by completing the following sentence stems.

1. In this lesson I learned that I \_\_\_\_\_
- 
-



2. I was surprised that 1 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. The principle or concept from this lesson that had the greatest impact on my thinking was  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. I am asking God to help me begin taking the following steps in regard to the truth I shared above in #3.
- (a) \_\_\_\_\_
- (b) \_\_\_\_\_
- (c) \_\_\_\_\_

**Answer Key: to FEEDBACK:**

- |          |           |
|----------|-----------|
| 1. True  | 8. True   |
| 2. True  | 9. True   |
| 3. True  | 10. True  |
| 4. True  | 11. True  |
| 5. True  | 12. True  |
| 6. False | 13. True  |
| 7. True  | 14. False |

## CHAPTER TWO

### OLD TESTAMENT INSTANCES OF REBELLION

#### OLD TESTAMENT INSTANCES OF REBELLION



#### **FOUNDATION RIGHTLY DIVIDING THE WORD OF TRUTH**

Genesis 2:16, 17; Genesis 3: 1-6; Romans 5:19

#### **PREVIEW IDENTIFYING IMPORTANT POINTS**



This chapter acquaints us with instances of rebellion in the Old Testament. We are introduced to the following important concepts that recur throughout the text.

Since the fall of Adam, disorder has prevailed in the universe, and everyone thinks he is able to distinguish good from evil and to judge what is right or wrong. But there is no authority except from God; he has instituted all authorities. Therefore, whenever a person sins against God's authority, whether direct or delegated, he sins against God. All Christians must learn to obey authority in every realm of life as well as in the body of Christ where Jesus is the Head. Their works must originate with God not with self.

The latter portion of the chapter stresses that once Christians have learned to practice obedience and be under God's authority, then it is important that they learn how to be in authority themselves and know how to exercise God's delegated authority in the church and in the home.



#### **FEEDBACK: AIDING COMPREHENSION AND RETENTION**

**DIRECTIONS:** Using your textbook as a guide, fill in each blank with the appropriate response.

#### **MAN'S FALL DUE TO DISOBEDIENCE**

1. In the Garden of Eden, God put Adam and Eve under authority in order that they might learn \_\_\_\_\_ The fall of man was due to disobedience to God's authority (p.20).

#### **ALL WORKS MUST BE DONE IN OBEDIENCE**

2. Many works are done out of self and not in \_\_\_\_\_ to God (p.21).

#### **CHRISTIANS SHOULD OBEY AUTHORITY**

3. There is no authority except from God; all authorities have been instituted by Him. Whenever a person sins against God's authority, he sins against \_\_\_\_\_ (p.22)

## **OBEDIENCE MUST BE RECOVERED**

4. Since the fall of Adam, disorder has prevailed in the universe. Everyone thinks he is able to \_\_\_\_\_ distinguish good from evil and to what is right or wrong (p.23).
5. The divisions and disruptions currently within the church stem from rebellion. In order to recover authority, \_\_\_\_\_ must first be restored (p.23).

## **NO UNITY OF BODY WITHOUT AUTHORITY OF HEAD**

6. Without the authority of the \_\_\_\_\_ there can be no unity of the body (p.24).

## **SOME LESSONS ON OBEDIENCE**

7. It is necessary to learn both how to be under authority and in authority. The church suffers because of many who do not know how to \_\_\_\_\_, but she is likewise damaged through some who have not learned how to be in \_\_\_\_\_.



### **TRANSFER: PUTTING TRUTH INTO PRACTICE**

Take thirty seconds for a spiritual checkup. Put an X beside the statement which best describes where you are right now.

- I have had problems with authority in the past but now I am praying for a spirit of obedience.
- I have met God's authority, have a spirit of obedience, and I am learning to live under authority.
- I have a spirit of obedience, I have learned to live under authority, and now I am learning to exercise delegated authority.

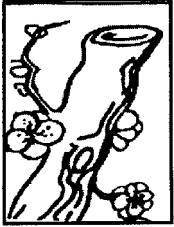
### **Answer Key of FEEDBACK**

1. Obedience
2. Obedience
3. God
4. Judge
5. Obedience
6. Head
7. (a) Obey  
(b) authority

## CHAPTER THREE

### OLD TESTAMENT INSTANCES OF REBELLION (CONTINUED)

#### OLD TESTAMENT INSTANCES OF REBELLION (Continued)



#### **FOUNDATION: RIGHTLY DIVIDING THE WORD OF TRUTH**

Genesis 9:20-27, Leviticus 10:1-2, Numbers 12, Numbers 16: 1-50

#### **PREVIEW: IDENTIFYING IMPORTANT POINTS**



In chapter three, we continue with our study of Old Testament instances of rebellion and the principles they demonstrate. We learn that everyone who wishes to serve the Lord acceptably needs to meet authority, no one can serve God in the spirit of lawlessness without obedience to authority. We discover that true service must also be initiated by God and coordinated under his authority.

In addition, we learn that whenever man touches God's delegated authority, he touches God within that person; sinning against delegated authority is sinning against God. Furthermore, we come to understand that spiritual authority is not something one attains by effort, rather, it is given by God to whomever He chooses. To speak against God's chosen direct or representative authority is rebellious and dangerous.

In the latter part of the chapter, we are presented with serious dangers and consequence in rebellion. We are introduced to several important truths. After we truly meet authority and understand it by divine revelation, we realize how much we have sinned against God. We learn to follow faith not reason. We will not be rebellious ourselves nor participate in the rebellion of others, for we understand that rebellion is sin and that God condemns and judges rebellion.



#### **FEEDBACK: AIDING COMPREHENSION AND RETENTION**

**DIRECTIONS:** Using Watchman Nee's book, Spiritual Authority, as a guide answer the following questions by filling in each blank with the correct response.

#### **FAILURE OF DELEGATED AUTHORITY TESTS OBEDIENCE**

1. Although Noah's conduct was wrong, his failure became a test that revealed who was obedient and who was \_\_\_\_\_ (p.28).
2. The first one in the Bible to become a slave was Noah's rebellious son, Ham, this account teaches us that the one who is not subject to authority shall be a \_\_\_\_\_ to him who obeys authority (p.29)

### **WHY NADAB AND ABIHU WERE BURNED**

3. God never meant for Nadab and Abihu to serve independently, He placed them under the \_\_\_\_\_ of Aaron, their father and high priest (p.29).
4. When Nadab and Abihu ventured to offer sacrifices by themselves without Aaron's order, they were offering \_\_\_\_\_ fire (p.29).
5. The meaning of strange fire is service without an order, service without obedience to \_\_\_\_\_ (p.29).

### **SERVICE IS INITIATED BY GOD**

6. While God initiates true service, strange fire originates from \_\_\_\_\_ (p.30).
7. Offering strange fire does not require knowing God or obeying the \_\_\_\_\_ of God (p.30).

### **GOD'S WORK IS THE COORDINATION OF AUTHORITY**

8. The work of God must be coordinated under \_\_\_\_\_ (p.30).
9. Anyone who says, "If he can, I can too," is in a state of \_\_\_\_\_ and rebellion changes the nature of a fire (p.30).

### **TO SPEAK AGAINST REPRESENTATIVE AUTHORITY INCURS DIVINE WRATH**

10. Miriam could reprimand her brother on the basis of their family relationship but when she slandered Moses and challenged his position, she touched upon the work of \_\_\_\_\_ (p.32)
11. Rebellious words ascend to heaven and are heard by \_\_\_\_\_ (p.33)

### **AUTHORITY IS GOD'S CHOICE, NOT MAN'S ATTAINMENT**

12. Spiritual authority is not something one attains to by \_\_\_\_\_ (p.33)
13. Spiritual authority is given by God to whoever He \_\_\_\_\_ (p.33)

### **BESIDES DIRECT AUTHORITY, BE SUBJECT TO REPRESENTATIVE AUTHORITY**

14. When we refuse to be subject to God's delegated authority, we sin against \_\_\_\_\_ (p.33)

### **COLLECTIVE REBELLION**

15. God and His delegated authority are \_\_\_\_\_ therefore, no one can reject God's delegated authority with one hand and receive God with the other hand (p.33).

### **GOD WIPED REBELLION OUT OF HIS PEOPLE**

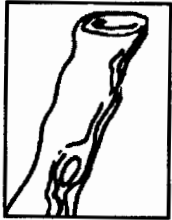
16. Frequently man's rebellion forces the \_\_\_\_\_ hand of God (p.37).

## **THE OBEDIENT FOLLOW FAITH, NOT REASON**

17. The eyes of the disobedient see the barrenness of the wilderness, while eyes of faith see the better \_\_\_\_\_, which lies ahead (p.38).
18. Authority is not a matter of outside instruction but of inward \_\_\_\_\_ (p.3 8).

## **REBELLION IS CONTAGIOUS**

19. As demonstrated in Numbers 16:1-50, the spirit of rebellion is very \_\_\_\_\_(p.38).
20. God cannot stand rebellion because rebellion is the principle of \_\_\_\_\_, the principle of Satan (p.39).



### **TRANSFER: PUTTING TRUTH INTO PRACTICE**

In this lesson, we learned the principle that everyone that wishes to serve the Lord acceptably must meet authority and understand it by divine revelation.

Can you briefly describe one instance in your life when you met authority and understood it by divine revelation.

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### **Answer Key to FEEDBACK:**

- |               |                 |
|---------------|-----------------|
| 1. rebellion  | 11. God         |
| 2. slave      | 12. effort      |
| 3. authority  | 13. chooses     |
| 4. strange    | 14. God         |
| 5. authority  | 15. inseparable |
| 6. man        | 16. judicial    |
| 7. (a) will   | 17. promise     |
| (b) authority | 18. revelation  |
| 8. authority  | 19. contagious  |
| 9. rebellion  | 20. death       |
| 10. God       |                 |

## CHAPTER FOUR

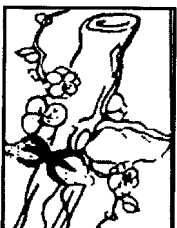
### DAVID'S KNOWLEDGE OF AUTHORITY

#### DAVID'S KNOWLEDGE OF AUTHORITY



#### **FOUNDATION RIGHTLY DIVIDING THE WORD OF TRUTH**

I Samuel 24: 4-6, I Samuel 26: 9-11, II Samuel 1: 14

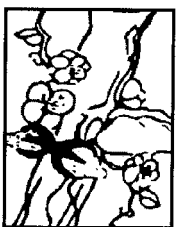


#### **PREVIEW: IDENTIFYING IMPORTANT POINTS**

In this chapter, we glean important concepts from David's knowledge of authority. We are reminded that the time God formally inaugurated His authority on earth was at the time When the kingdom of Israel was established.

When Saul, Israel's first king disobeyed God's authority, God rejected him and anointed David. However, the rejected king was still on the throne and David was still under his authority. We discover that David would have had to pay the price of rebellion to get to the throne by killing Saul. But David refused to become a rebel; instead, he waited for God to work. Thus we learn that our obedience is more important than our work for God.

Like David, we come to understand that subjection to authority is not being subject to a person, but being subject to God's anointing which is upon that person. Like David, we learn to be subject to authority before we can properly exercise authority.



#### **FEEDBACK: AIDING COMPREHENSION AND RETENTION**

**DIRECTIONS:** Using your textbook, Spiritual Authority as a guide, choose the correct response to each question by circling TRUE or FALSE.

#### **NOT AT THE PRICE OF REBELLION DID DAVID SEEK THE THRONE**

TRUE/FALSE 1. King Saul was a good example of authority (p.42).

TRUE/FALSE 2. David would rather delay his ascension to the throne than be rebellious (p.42).

#### **OBEDIENCE HIGHER THAN WORKS**

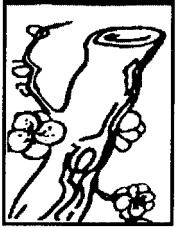
TRUE/FALSE 3. Consecration can cover the sin of rebellion (p.43).

TRUE/FALSE 4. Submitting to authority is not subjection to a person but to the anointing upon that person (p.43).

## DAVID MAINTAINED GOD'S AUTHORITY

TRUE/FALSE 5. Only those subject to authority can be in authority (p.44).

TRUE/FALSE 6. Submission of the heart is the key idea in being rightly related to authority (p.44).



### **TRANSFER: PUTTING TRUTH INTO PRACTICE**

1. Like David, I have come to understand that subjection to authority is not being subject to a person, but being subject to God's anointing upon that person. The authority I have had the most difficulty submitting to in the past is:-

my mate

my pastor

my employer

Other

2. I resolve to be an obedient doer of the Word by taking the following steps in regard to my relationship with the above person:

(a) \_\_\_\_\_

(b) \_\_\_\_\_

(c) \_\_\_\_\_

### **Answer key to FEEDBACK:**

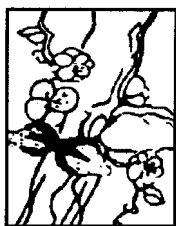
- |          |         |
|----------|---------|
| 1. False | 4. True |
| 2. True  | 5. True |
| 3. False | 6. True |



# CHAPTER FIVE

## THE OBEDIENCE OF THE SON

### THE OBEDIENCE OF THE SON



#### **FOUNDATION: RIGHTLY DIVIDING THE WORD OF TRUTH**

Philippians 2:5-11, Hebrews 5:7-9

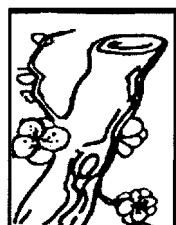
#### **PREVIEW: IDENTIFYING IMPORTANT POINTS**



Chapter four reminds us that in the Godhead, the Father represents authority, but authority cannot be established without obedience. God created angels and men to obey Him, but both rebelled. Therefore, perfect accord was reached within the Godhead that authority would be answered by obedience in the Son.

We are reminded that the Lord Jesus and the Father are one, equal in power and possession. Only in person is there a difference between the Father and the Son. Yet to be our Saviour, Jesus emptied Himself of His divinity and then humbled Himself in His humanity. Though the Son originally shared the same glory and authority with the Father, when He came to the world, He forsook that authority and took up obedience.

We also discover divine principles. Since Christ was obedient unto death, God has highly exalted Him. God exalts whoever humbles himself. Jesus Christ initiated obedience. He learned obedience through what He suffered. Therefore, whoever accepts Christ also accepts the principle of obedience, for God saves us that we might obey His will. Only in obeying as Christ did can we re-affirm God's principle of authority.



#### **FEEDBACK: AIDING COMPREHENSION AND RETENTION**

**DIRECTIONS:** Using your textbook, Spiritual Authority as a guide, answer the following questions by filling in the blanks or by circling the correct response, TRUE or FALSE.

#### **THE LORD INITIATES OBEDIENCE**

1. Who represents authority in the Godhead (p.46)? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Who represents obedience (p.46)? \_\_\_\_\_
3. While Jesus was upon the earth, God the Father was greater than God the Son. (See John 14:28)  
TRUE/FALSE
4. God exalts whoever humbles himself. This is a divine principle. TRUE/FALSE

#### **TO BE FILLED WITH CHRIST IS TO BE FILLED WITH OBEDIENCE**

5. If you are filled with Christ, you should be filled with \_\_\_\_\_ (p.47).

**THE WAY OF THE LORD**

- 6. Through our obedience to' God's will, we will receive crowns for our reward. What was the reward Jesus received for His obedience (p.47)? \_\_\_\_\_
- 7. Authority can be established without obedience (p.48). TRUE/FALSE
- 8. Jesus could not have returned to Heaven if He had not been totally obedient to God. TRUE/FALSE
- 9. List the two ways Jesus could have returned to Heaven (p.48).
  - (a) \_\_\_\_\_
  - (b) \_\_\_\_\_

**LEARN OBEDIENCE THROUGH SUFFERING**

- 10. Obedience is learned through suffering (p.50). See Hebrews 5:8. TRUE/FALSE
- 11. God saved you so you could obey His will (p.51). TRUE/FALSE

**TRANSFER:  
PUTTING TRUTH INTO PRACTICE**

Answer each question that applies to you and rate yourself on a scale of 1 (weakness) to 5 (strength).

- 1. When someone is put in authority over me who knows less than I do about the particular subject or project at hand, I cooperate whole-heartedly and try not to say or do things that might intimidate the person or undermine his effectiveness with others. [1 2 3 4 5]
- 2. When my employer is unfair and insensitive in his / her dealings with me, because of my love for God, reverence for His Word, and obedience to His principles, I respond to my boss with love, continue to do my work in a consistent and exemplary manner, and show respect for him / her. [1 2 3 4 5]

If your answer to the question revealed a problem area in your life, you should take specific steps of action in areas where you are weak. Use the following questions to help pinpoint your needs.

- 1. Have I settled matters with God? Yes  No
- 2. Do I need to make amends for the times my behaviour has hurt other members of the body of Christ? Yes  No
- 3. Do I need to apologize to an authority my life? Yes  No
- 4. What changes do I resolve to make in regard to my future behaviour?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Answer Key to FEEDBACK:**

- 1. God the Father
- 2. Christ Jesus
- 3. True
- 4. True
- 5. Obedience
- 6. Lordship
- 7. False
- 8. False
- 9. (a) Through total obedience  
(b) Through forcing His way back by reclaiming and using the authority and glory of His deity.
- 10. True
- 11. True

## CHAPTER SIX

### HOW GOD ESTABLISHES HIS KINGDOM

#### HOW GOD ESTABLISHES HIS KINGDOM



#### **FOUNDATION: RIGHTLY DIVIDING THE WORD OF TRUTH**

Hebrews 5:8-9, Acts 5:32, Romans 10:16, II Thessalonians 1:8, I Peter 1:22



#### **PREVIEW: IDENTIFYING IMPORTANT POINTS**

In chapter five, we learned that as God secured the principle of obedience through the life of our Lord, so God also established His authority through the Lord. Chapter six teaches that God today establishes His kingdom on the basis of that authority.

As Jesus passed through all kinds of sufferings, He continually exhibited the spirit of obedience and became the source of our eternal salvation. His obedience was for the sake of God's kingdom: the aim of redemption is to further the kingdom of God.

We learn that though Satan continually violates God's authority and men rebel against it, God will set up His kingdom. Just as Jesus established God's kingdom by perfectly and permitting God's authority to rule absolutely, so must the church today obey in order that the authority of God may prosper and the kingdom of God may be manifested.

We are reminded that the gospel is two-fold: it calls men to receive eternal life through it and it bids men to enter God's kingdom through obedience. The gospel calls to obey as well as to believe. We must obey the authorities God has established wherever we encounter them. Indeed, if the church refuses to accept God's authority, God has no way to establish His kingdom, for God's way of obtaining His kingdom is first in the Lord Jesus Christ, then in the church, and lastly in the whole world. Through the church's obedience, God's kingdom shall be extended to the whole earth.



#### **FEEDBACK: AIDING COMPREHENSION AND RETENTION**

**DIRECTIONS:** Fill in each blank with the appropriate response or circle the correct answer, TRUE or FALSE. You may refer to chapter six in your textbook, Spiritual Authority as necessary.

#### **THE LORD LEARNED OBEDIENCE THROUGH SUFFERING**

1. According to Hebrews 5:8,9 how did Jesus learn obedience? \_\_\_\_\_

## **GOD WILL ESTABLISH HIS KINGDOM**

2. It was God's intention that man and the angels He created should accept His authority, yet both kinds of created beings rejected it. TRUE/FALSE
3. By obeying perfectly and by permitting God's authority to rule absolutely, Jesus established God's kingdom within the realm of His own obedience (p.53). TRUE/FALSE

## **GOD ORDAINS THE CHURCH TO BE THE VANGUARD OF HIS KINGDOM**

4. The gospel calls men to receive eternal life through \_\_\_\_\_ it bids men to enter God's kingdom through \_\_\_\_\_ (p.56).
5. Just as the kingdom of God is in the Lord, so it is to be found in the \_\_\_\_\_ because the Lord's life is released to the church, and so God's kingdom extends also to the church (p.56).
6. God's purposes that we be His kingdom and His church, since the \_\_\_\_\_ is ordained to be the sphere wherein God's authority is exercised (p.56).
7. God calls us not only to receive His life through \_\_\_\_\_, but also to maintain His authority through \_\_\_\_\_ (p.57)

## **GOSPEL CALLS PEOPLE NOT ONLY TO BELIEVE BUT ALSO TO OBEY**

8. Many are able to hearken to and obey only a certain person. This shows that they have not seen authority, for it is \_\_\_\_\_ we must obey \_\_\_\_\_ not man(p.58).

## **THROUGH THE CHURCH THE NATIONS TO BECOME GOD'S KINGDOM**

9. God's way of obtaining His kingdom is first in the \_\_\_\_\_, then in the \_\_\_\_\_ and lastly in the whole \_\_\_\_\_ (p.58).
10. There can be no church without the \_\_\_\_\_, and there can be no further extension of God's kingdom without the \_\_\_\_\_ (p.58).
11. On page 59, the author discusses how the Lord, while on earth, obeyed even in very minor matters. Briefly give one example of Christ's obedience in earthly matters \_\_\_\_\_

## **THE CHURCH MUST OBEY GOD'S AUTHORITY**

12. We must know how to obey in the church. There is no authority within the church which does not require obedience. TRUE/FALSE



### **TRANSFER: PUTTING TRUTH INTO PRACTICE**

1. In the space below, write the two truths in this lesson that had the greatest impact upon your thinking.

(a) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

(b) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Choose one of the above truths and tell how you will seek to apply it in relationships with spiritual authorities in the future

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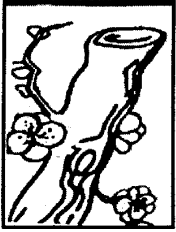
**Answer Key to FEEDBACK:**

1. By the things which He suffered
2. True
3. True
4. (a) Faith (b) repentance
5. Church
6. Church
7. (a) Faith (b) obedience
8. Authority
9. (a) Lord Jesus (b) Church (c) World
10. (a) Lord Jesus (b) Church
11. He paid the temple tax
12. True

# CHAPTER SEVEN

## MEN SHOULD OBEY DELEGATED AUTHORITY

### MEN SHOULD OBEY DELEGATED AUTHORITY



#### **FOUNDATION: RIGHTLY DIVIDING THE WORD OF TRUTH**

Romans 13:1, I Peter 2:13,14



#### **PREVIEW: IDENTIFYING IMPORTANT POINTS**

Chapter seven reminds us that God is the source of all authorities in the universe. Since He institutes all governing authorities, then all authorities are delegated by Him and represent His authority. However, it is difficult to obey if we do not understand this principle.

Chapter seven then explains some thought-provoking concepts pertaining to the principle of obedience to delegated authority. God sets up His authority in the spiritual realm, in the world, in the home, and in the church. As we learn to honour the authority of the Lord in our lives, others will respect the Lord's authority in us. Though God incurs loss if His delegated authorities misrepresent Him, He still boldly establishes authority. Therefore, if God has not been afraid to establish authorities, we must courageously obey them. The one in authority is directly responsible to God and will answer directly to Him. To reject delegated authority is an affront to God; we cannot bypass delegated authority and be directly subject to God's authority, for God Himself will not supersede delegated authority. Only when delegated authority distinctly violates God's command and trespasses against the person of the Lord can we say, "We must obey God rather than men."



#### **FEEDBACK: AIDING COMPREHENSION AND RETENTION**

**DIRECTIONS:** Using your textbook Spiritual Authority as a guide, circle the correct answer, TRUE or FALSE.

### **AUTHORITIES INSTITUTED BY GOD IN THE WORLD**

1. Wherever people encounter authority they meet God (p.61) TRUE/FALSE
2. In Mark 12:1-9, the "foolish tenants" have to have the presence of the owner before they will obey. (p.62) TRUE/FALSE
3. If you obey only God's direct authority, you may be violating half of God's total authority. (p.62) TRUE/FALSE
4. If a man resists authority, he will be resisting God. TRUE/FALSE
5. Exodus 22:28 states: "Do not blaspheme God or curse the ruler of your people." This proves that God had put His people under delegated authority. (p.62, 63) TRUE/FALSE
6. When Jesus was on earth, He was subject to the governing authorities. (p.63) TRUE/FALSE

7. The basic principle of all God's laws is to punish evil and reward the good. This is taught in Romans 13.(p.63) TRUE/FALSE
8. When the antichrist comes to rule, he will distort the system of law and will call good as bad and bad as good. (p.63,64) TRUE/FALSE
9. Our prayer for our government officials should be that they will judge on the grounds of the righteousness of God. (p.64) TRUE/FALSE

### **AUTHORITY INSTITUTED BY GOD IN THE FAMILY**

- 10 According to Ephesians 5, the husband represents the church and the wife represents Christ. TRUE/FALSE
- 11 According to I Peter 3:1, even if a woman's husband is an unbeliever, he may be won without talk, by the behaviour of his wife. TRUE/FALSE
- 12 According to Ephesians 6:2-3, the only one of the Ten Commandments that comes with a promise is "Obey your parents". TRUE/FALSE
- 13 God has ordained that employees (servants) should obey their employers (masters). (p.67) TRUE/FALSE

### **AUTHORITY INSTITUTED BY GOD IN THE CHURCH**

- 14 One scripture reference in regard to obeying church authority is Hebrews 13: 17. (p.67) TRUE/FALSE
- 15 We are not to revile or despise a spiritual authority who has fallen. TRUE/FALSE  
List a biblical example from pages 68-69 of your text, which demonstrates that we are not even to revile or despise a spiritual authority who has fallen.
- 16 According to Watchman Nee, a Christian should have two senses sin and authority. TRUE/FALSE
- 17 According to Acts 15, the New Testament Church voted on decisions that had to be made. (p.69) TRUE/FALSE

### **TO REJECT DELEGATED AUTHORITY IS AN AFFRONT TO GOD**

- 18 On the Damascus road when Saul met the Lord, he cried. "What shall I do, Lord?" Though Paul put himself under the direct authority of the Lord, the Lord immediately shifted Paul to the delegated authority of an an called Ananias. (p.72) TRUE/FALSE
19. No one can expect to obtain light directly from the Lord If he refuses to have light from delegated authorities. (p.73) TRUE/FALSE

### **GOD RESPECTS HIS DELEGATED AUTHORITY**

20. When a delegated authority stops following the Word God, or asks you to do something illegal, immoral or unethical, you to obey God rather than the Delegated authority. TRUE/FALSE

### **TRANSFER: PUTTING TRUTH INTO PRACTICE**

Reflect upon the principles you have studied in this lesson, then select any two of the following sentences, read and complete them.

1. I learned that \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. I was displeased that 1 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. I discovered that this lesson relates to my needs in \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. In the future, I plan to put the truth that I listed above in no. 1 into Practice in my life by  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Answer key to FEEDBACK:**

- |          |           |          |          |           |
|----------|-----------|----------|----------|-----------|
| 1. True  | 2. True   | 3. True  | 4. True  | 5. True   |
| 5. True  | 7. True   | 8. True  | 9. True  | 10. False |
| 11. True | 12. True  | 13. True | 14. True | 15. True  |
| 16. True | 17. False | 18. True | 19. True | 20. True  |



## CHAPTER EIGHT

### THE AUTHORITY OF THE BODY

#### **FOUNDATION: RIGHTLY DIVIDING THE WORD OF TRUTH**

1 Corinthians, 2:12-21; Matthew 18:15-18

#### **PREVIEW: IDENTIFYING IMPORTANT POINTS**

Chapter eight explains important concepts pertaining to the authority of the body of Christ. In this world, authorities as well as obedience are all imperfect. God will work in His people until the relationship between Christ and the church fits the pattern as the relationship between God and His Christ.

We learn that the fullest expression of God's authority is found in the body of Christ, His church. Christ the Head (the source of authority) and the members of the body with its function, ministering to each other as to authority are all in the church. The body must obey the head and the body members must learn to function in obedience and unity. A healthy physical body moves at the slightest impulse from the head. As the body obeys the head, the body itself is blessed. This is the kind of obedience which satisfies God: not submission through conquering or by threatening.

The final portion of the chapter stresses that the church is where we should begin to learn obedience. If we learn well in the church, the problems of the Kingdom, and of the world and universe can be solved, and the kingdom of this world will be made the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ.

#### **FEEDBACK: AIDING COMPREHENSION AND RETENTION**

**DIRECTIONS:** Using your textbook, *Spiritual Authority*, as a guide answer the following questions by underlining the correct answer or by circling the correct response, TRUE or FALSE.

#### **AUTHORITY FINDS ITS FULLEST EXPRESSION IN THE BODY (p.76)**

1. The fullest expression of God's authority is found in:
  - (a) rulers and people
  - (b) parents and children
  - (c) husbands and wives
  - (d) masters and servants
  - (e) The body of Christ, His church.
  
2. God has called the church to be:
  - (a) an institution
  - (b) one body, the body of Christ

3. The kind of obedience, which satisfies God is best demonstrated by:
  - (a) the subjection children give to parents
  - (b) the subjection wives give to husbands
  - (c) the obedience the body renders to its head
4. God will work in His people until the relationship between Christ and the church fits the same pattern as the relationship between God and His Christ. The first phase of God's work is to make Himself Christ's Head. TRUE/FALSE
5. As God continues laboring until we obey Christ as Christ obeys God, the second phase of God's work is to make the kingdom of this world the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ. TRUE/FALSE
6. In our physical bodies some movements are conscious while others are automatic. For instance, the hand picks up a pencil at the command of the head, while the heart beats automatically, not waiting for any order. But many of God's people will obey only commands, thus hindering the unity and coordination of God's body. TRUE/FALSE
7. The church is a place for the fellowship of brothers and sisters, but it is not a place for the manifestation of authority. TRUE/FALSE

**RESISTING THE AUTHORITY OF THE MEMBERS IS RESISTING THE HEAD (p.79)**

8. Not only is the body subject to the head, in addition, its members help one another and are subject to one another. TRUE/FALSE
9. In the body, the function of each member is limited eyes see, feet walk etc. Therefore, we should reject functions of other members after all, they are not the Head. TRUE/FALSE
10. The function of each member of the body constitutes its Authority (p.81) TRUE/FALSE

**THE RICHES OF CHRIST IS AUTHORITY (p.80)**

11. It is impossible to make each member a whole body, therefore, we must each learn to stand in the position of being a member accepting the workings of the other members. TRUE/FALSE
12. When one member of the body desires to have everything to Himself, refusing to accept the supply of the other members, it creates poverty in him as well as in the church. (p.81) TRUE/FALSE
13. While insubordination brings poverty, submitting to the authority of the other body members is to possess their riches.(p.81) TRUE/FALSE
14. God does not use authority to oppress, hurt or trouble us rather, He uses authority to replenish our lack and to supply the need of the weak. (p.81) TRUE/FALSE
15. God works thoroughly in the life of another so that He may give that person to you as an authority in order that you may learn obedience and possess what you have never possessed before. (p.81) TRUE/FALSE

16. When God puts above you the brothers and sisters in the church who are more advanced spiritually, it enables you to possess their wealth without your having to go through their painful experiences. TRUE/FALSE

**DISTRIBUTION OF FUNCTIONS IS ALSO A DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY (p.82)**

17. In the body, eyes see, ears hear, feet walk. Such distribution of function is a delegation of authority. (p.82) TRUE/FALSE
18. Whoever is gifted has a ministry, and whoever has a ministry has authority. We need to accept the workings of other members. TRUE/FALSE
19. Most people want to have God's direct authority, but God's more frequent way of guidance is to set up indirect or delegated authorities for us to obey. (p.82) TRUE/FALSE
20. Since the head (the source of authority) and the members (each with its function ministering to others as delegated authority, as well as being obedient to authority) are all in the church, the church is where we should begin to learn obedience (p.83) TRUE/FALSE

**TRANSFER: PUTTING TRUTH INTO PRACTICE**

1. The word of God teaches that Jesus is the Head of the church and that believers make up His body. Which particular part of the body do you believe God has called you to be (for example: an eye, foot, hand,etc)?

\_\_\_\_\_

Why do you believe this? \_\_\_\_\_

2. Write the name of a person in this church that God has placed in authority over you.

\_\_\_\_\_

What two things have you gained from that person's example, gifts, or experiences that have enriched your life?

(a) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

(b) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Answer key to FEEDBACK:**

- |          |          |          |          |           |
|----------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|
| 1. (a)   | 2. (b)   | 3. (c)   | 4. True  | 5. False  |
| 5. True  | 7. False | 8. True  | 9. False | 10. False |
| 11. True | 12. True | 13. True | 14. True | 15. True  |
| 16. True | 17. True | 18. True | 19. True | 20. True  |

# CHAPTER NINE

## THE MANIFESTATION OF MAN'S REBELLION

### THE MANIFESTATION OF MAN'S REBELLION

#### FOUNDATION: RIGHTLY DIVIDING THE WORD OF TRUTH

II Peter 2: 10-12; Ephesians 5:6; Jude 8:10; Matthew 12:34

#### PREVIEW: IDENTIFYING IMPORTANT POINTS

In chapter nine, we study how man's rebellion is made evident. Man's rebellion is most apparent in three areas: words, reasons and thoughts. In this chapter, we study the first two areas, words and reasons. In chapter ten, we will discuss thoughts, the third area of man's rebellion.

One of the most important points in this chapter is that words are the outlet of the heart. If one can freely speak rebellious words without any inward sense of restraint, he has never met authority. Whether or not there is heart obedience can easily be detected by the words which come from one's mouth. Those who cannot control their words cannot control themselves.

In addition, we discover that slanderous words usually issue out of man's reason, but those under the authority of God do not live by sight. We can live on the level of reason, stopping to consider God's commands and seeing if there are sufficient reasons for us to obey them, or we may live on the level of authority simply obeying. When we realize that God does not need to give any reason, that 'I am the Lord Your God' is the reason - then we live in worshipful obedience.

#### FEEDBACK: AIDING COMPREHENSION AND RETENTION

DIRECTIONS: Fill in each blank with the correct answer or circle the appropriate response, TRUE or FALSE. You may refer to your textbook, Spiritual Authority.

#### WORDS ARE THE OUTLET OF THE HEART (p. 86)

1. Words are an outlet of the heart, Matthew 12:34 states ' . . . out of the abundance of the \_\_\_\_\_ the mouth speaks.
2. If one can speak rebellious words without any inward sense of restraint, he certainly has never met \_\_\_\_\_
3. What words did Eve add to God's command concerning the tree of the knowledge of good and evil?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_ is a manifestation of rebellion for when he discovered his father's weakness, he seized the opportunity to broadcast it to his brothers, Shem and Japheth (Genesis 9: 18-23). (p 87)

### **MIRIAM AND AARON REVELED MOSES (p. 87)**

5. Rebellion usually manifests itself in \_\_\_\_\_

### **KORAH AND HIS COMPANY ATTACKED MOSES (p. 88)**

6. There are two different degrees of rebellion illustrated in Numbers chapter 12 and chapter 16: Miriam spoke with restraint and could be \_\_\_\_\_ but Korah and his company openly censured Moses severely and were swallowed up by Sheol.
7. From the instance of Korah and his company in Numbers 16, we learn that all who hearken to God's direct authority but reject \_\_\_\_\_ authority are under the principle of rebellion (p.89)

### **REBELLION IS LINKED WITH FLESHLY INDULGENCE (p.89)**

8. Name two things which cause Christians to lose their power:  
(a) \_\_\_\_\_ and (b) a \_\_\_\_\_ of authority. (p.90)
9. Loss of power is greater when disobedience is put into \_\_\_\_\_ than when it is hidden in the heart.
10. Those who cannot control their \_\_\_\_\_ cannot control themselves.

### **DIFFICULTIES IN THE CHURCH ARE OFTEN DERIVED FROM SLANDEROUS WORDS (p.m.)**

11. Speaking inadvertently is largely responsible for breaking up of the of the church and the losing of \_\_\_\_\_

### **FOLLOWING THE LORD DEMANDS DELIVERS FROM REASON (p.93)**

12. Those under authority of God do not live by \_\_\_\_\_
13. There are two classes of Christians, those who live on the level of reason, and those who live on the level of authority. (p.94) TRUE/FALSE
14. When God's command comes to us, we should stop and consider the matter to see if there are sufficient reasons for us to do it. (p.94) TRUE/FALSE

### **GOD NEVER ARGUES (p.94)**

15. When God exercises authority, He has no need to consult with or gain your approval. He simply requires you to obey His authority and acknowledge that if this is of God, it is good. (Romans 9:16-21) (p.95). TRUE/FALSE
16. A glimpse of the unapproachable glory of God sends us to our knees and makes us throwaway our reasoning, for when we see ourselves for what we really are. (96, 97) TRUE/FALSE
17. Since the time when Adam sinned by taking the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, reason has become the life principle of man. (p.97) TRUE/FALSE
18. In Leviticus 18-22, each time God orders the people of Israel to do certain things, He interpolates a phrase: 'I am the Lord your God' meaning I the Lord, am the reason TRUE/FALSE

19. To argue with God implies that God needs to get our consent for all he does. TRUE/FALSE

20. Just as the potter does not need to ask the consent of the clay in his work, neither does God, whose ways are higher than our ways, need to tell us the reason and get our consent. (p.98). TRUE/FALSE

### TRANSFER: PUTTING TRUTH INTO PRACTICE

On a scale of 1 (weakness) to 5 (strength), rate yourself in regard to the following statements.

1 2 3 4 5      1. I cannot speak rebellious words without a strong inward sense of restraint and conviction.

1 2 3 4 5      2. I make it a practice to control my words and myself.

1 2 3 4 5      3. When God's command comes to me, I obey immediately rather than rationalizing to see if there are sufficient reasons for me to obey Him.

1 2 3 4 5      4. If God commands me to do something, the facts that He is the Lord my God and that if a thing is of God, it is good, are reasons enough for me to obey even if in my heart, I do not want to do what he asks.

According to your responses to the four questions above, in what particular area are you weakest?

---

What can you begin to do to strengthen this weak area? \_\_\_\_\_

---

### Answer key to FEEDBACK

- |                                |              |               |           |
|--------------------------------|--------------|---------------|-----------|
| 1. (a) Heart                   | (b) Mouth    | 11. (a) Unity | (b) power |
| 2. Authority                   |              | 12. reason    |           |
| 3. 'Neither shall ye touch it' |              | 13. True      |           |
| 4. Ham                         |              | 14. False     |           |
| 5. Words                       |              | 15. True      |           |
| 6. Restored                    |              | 16. True      |           |
| 7. Delegated                   |              | 17. True      |           |
| 8. (a) Sin                     | (b) reviling | 18. True      |           |
| 9. Words                       |              | 19. True      |           |
| 10. Words                      |              | 20. True      |           |

# CHAPTER TEN

## THE MANIFESTATIONS OF MAN'S REBELLION



### FOUNDATION RIGHTLY DIVIDING THE WORD OF TRUTH

II Corinthians 10:4-6; Genesis 3; I Samuel: 15



### PREVIEW: IDENTIFYING IMPORTANT POINTS

In chapter nine, we studied how man manifests his rebellion in reasons. In chapter ten, we will discuss how man also manifests in thought.

This chapter alerts us to the fact that Satan employs all sorts of reasons to enslave us so that we, instead of being apprehended by God, become enemies of God. Thoughts can be used as tools of Satan. We do not use reason; instead, reason must be met with spiritual weapons

If we desire to obey God, we must know how the authority of God destroys the stronghold of reason .

We discover that men may be imprisoned in the strongholds of reasoning. Therefore, the captive mind must be captured by God's authority. When this happens, we lose confidence in our opinions and cleverness; we refrain from making decisions on our own thoughts; rather, we execute the will of God.

And we must come to grips with the fact that Satan is not afraid of us as we act on the principles of rebellion. A disobedient church cannot expect to obey the gospel, but with an obedient church there will also come obedience to the gospel. God's kingdom begins when there is absolute obedience to God.



### FEEDBACK- AIDING COMPREHENSION AND RETENTION

DIRECTIONS: Fill in each blank with the appropriate response. Your textbook, Spiritual Authority, as your guide.

### THERE IS A LINK BETWEEN REASON AND THOUGHT (p.99)

1. Man manifests his rebellion not only in word and \_\_\_\_\_ as well.
2. II Corinthians 10:5 suggests that man's rebellion is basically in \_\_\_\_\_
3. Our mental habit of \_\_\_\_\_ is something we inherited from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. (p.100)
4. In Genesis 3, when Satan reasoned with Eve and she saw that the tree was good for food, instead of listening to God and obeying him, she responded with \_\_\_\_\_
5. Reasons and \_\_\_\_\_ are closely joined; reason tends to capture the thoughts. Then once the thought is taken captive, man finds himself incapable of obeying Christ.

### **RECAPTURING THE CAPTIVE MIND (p.100)**

6. Not until man begins to see that God is God, will Satan's strongholds in man's reasoning be destroyed; then man's thoughts can be taken captive to obey Christ. Only after his thoughts are can man be truly obedient to Christ. (p.101)
7. Once one encounter God's \_\_\_\_\_ his tongue does not freely wiggle; neither can his reasoning and thoughts be loosely expressed.
8. Man's thoughts are controlled by either one of two powers: either by \_\_\_\_\_ or by \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ of Christ. (p.102)
9. Whether or not a brother has met authority may be readily discerned by observing: (1) whether he has any \_\_\_\_\_ words, (2) whether he \_\_\_\_\_ before God, and (3) whether he still offers many \_\_\_\_\_

### **WARNINGS TO THE OPINIONATED (p.103)**

10. All who serve God must refrain from making decisions on the basis of their own \_\_\_\_\_ rather, they are to execute the \_\_\_\_\_ of God, saying. "Lord what do you want me to do?" (p.104)
11. King Saul (I Samuel 15), and Nadab and Abihu (Leviticus 0:1-2) offended God by attempting to serve God according to their own thoughts. But God does not look at how fervently we preach the gospel or how willing we suffer for him; he looks to see how \_\_\_\_\_ we are. (p.104-105)

### **TESTIMONY OF THE KINGDOM BROUGHT IN THROUGH OBEDIENCE (p.105)**

12. God's kingdom begins when there is absolute \_\_\_\_\_ to God.
13. Satan is not afraid of our work so long as we act on the principle of \_\_\_\_\_ he only laughs when we do things according to our thoughts. (p. 105)
14. If we as a company of believers can turn so thoroughly as to obey God absolutely, fearing our own ideas and opinions, then God will be able to manifest His \_\_\_\_\_ on earth. (p.106)
15. A \_\_\_\_\_ church cannot expect unbelievers to obey the gospel. But with an \_\_\_\_\_ church there will also come obedience to the gospel. (p.106)



### **TRANSFER: PUTTING TRUTH INTO PRACTICE**

1. In the past three years, have you tried to do something for God and at the same time acted on the principle of religion?  
Yes  No
2. If your response was yes, do you still owe someone an apology for your actions or attitude?  
Yes  No



3 If so, what are you going to do about it now that you understand the seriousness of your actions or attitude?

---

---

**Answer key to FEEDBACK:**

- |                   |                     |              |
|-------------------|---------------------|--------------|
| 1. thought        | 10. (a) thoughts    | (b) will     |
| 2. thought        | 11. obedient        |              |
| 3. reasoning      | 12. obedience       |              |
| 4. reasoning      | 13. rebellion       |              |
| 5. thoughts       | 14. authority       |              |
| 6. recaptured     | 15. (a) disobedient | (b) obedient |
| 7. authority      |                     |              |
| 8. (a) reasoning  | (b) authority       |              |
| 9. (a) rebellious | (b) reasons         | (c) opinions |

# CHAPTER ELEVEN

## THE MEASURE OF OBEYING AUTHORITY

### THE MEASURE OF OBEYING AUTHORITY



#### **FOUNDATION: RIGHTLY DIVIDING THE WORD OF TRUTH**

Hebrew 11:23; Exodus 1:17; Daniel 3:17-18; Daniel 6: 10; Matthew 2: 13;  
Acts 5:29; Ephesians 4

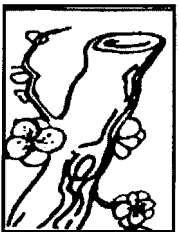


#### **PREVIEW: IDENTIFYING IMPORTANT POINTS**

In chapter eleven, we discover just how far we should go in obeying authority. We are reminded that submission is a matter of attitude, while obedience is a matter of conduct. Some authorities must not be obeyed especially in matters which touch upon Christianity. We may make suggestions to those in authority, but we should maintain a submissive attitude. We should not disobey with quarrels and shouting; there should be no slander or insubordination. We should be soft and tender.

Next, we consider principles regarding obedience to delegate and direct. When delegated authority and direct authority (God Himself) are in conflict, we can render submission, but not obedience, to the delegated authority. God alone receives obedience. We should submit to the person, but we should disobey the order, which offends God.

We discover the two essentials by which the church is maintained: (1) the life of submission we have received, and (2) authority. The life we have is not only for dealing with sin; it is also for obeying. All local churches must walk in this way of obedience.



#### **FEEDBACK: AIDING, COMPREHENSION AND RETENTION**

**DIRECTIONS:** Fill in each blank: with the appropriate response, the correct answer, TRUE or FALSE. Feel free to refer to your book Spiritual Authority.

#### **SUBMISSION IS ABSOLUTE BUT OBEDIENCE IS RELATIVE (p.107)**

1. Submission is a matter of \_\_\_\_\_, while obedience is a matter of conduct
2. Some authorities must be obeyed, while others should not be, in matters which touch upon \_\_\_\_\_ (p.108)
3. When the apostles were forbidden by the Jewish council to preach, they kept a \_\_\_\_\_ throughout the trial, but they continued on the Lord's commission. They did not disobey with quarrels and shouting; they quietly and softly \_\_\_\_\_ (p.108)
4. There should neither be a word of \_\_\_\_\_ Nor an attitude of \_\_\_\_\_ towards governing authorities. (p.108)

**THE MEASURE OF OBEYING DELEGATED AUTHORITIES (p.108)**

- 5. When delegated authority (men who represent God's authority) and direct authority (God Himself) are in conflict, one can render \_\_\_\_\_, but not \_\_\_\_\_, to the delegated authority.
- 6. \_\_\_\_\_ is related to conduct: it is relative. \_\_\_\_\_ is related to heart attitude: it is absolute(p.109)
- 7. God alone receives \_\_\_\_\_ obedience; any person lower than God can receive only \_\_\_\_\_ obedience. (p.109)
- 8. Should the delegated authority issue an order clearly contradicting God's command, he will be given \_\_\_\_\_ but not \_\_\_\_\_ (p.109)
- 9. We should submit to the \_\_\_\_\_ who has received delegated authority from God, but we should \_\_\_\_\_ the order, which offends God. (p.109)

**EXAMPLES IN THE BIBLE (p.109)**

- 10. List three or more examples in the Bible where delegated authority was submitted to, but the authority's order, which offended God was disobeyed. (p.109)
  - (a) \_\_\_\_\_
  - (b) \_\_\_\_\_
  - (c) \_\_\_\_\_
  - (d) \_\_\_\_\_
  - (e) \_\_\_\_\_

**INDISPENSABLE SIGNS ACCOMPANYING THE OBEDIENT(p.110)**

- 11. Once the lesson of obeying from the heart has been learned, the Christian will look for and find authority everywhere. TRUE/FALSE
- 12. A person who has met God's authority is soft and tender; he has been melted, and he is afraid of being wrong. TRUE/FALSE
- 13. A person who has truly met authority has neither the thought nor the interest to become one in authority; he doesn't take pleasure controlling others. TRUE/FALSE

**MAINTENANCE OF ORDER IS IN THE KNOWING OF AUTHORITY(p.110)**

- 14. It is futile to point out error to one who has never seen authority. First lead him to know authority, and then you can show him his fault. TRUE/FALSE

**LIFE AND AUTHORITY (p.111)**

- 15. The church is maintained by two essentials; life and authority. The indwelling life of submission that we have received enables us to obey authority. TRUE/FALSE



**TRANSFER:  
PUTTING TRUTH INTO PRACTICE**

1. Can you give an example from your own experience where someone in authority over you gave orders that were in conflict with God's commands?
2. If so, how did you respond?

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3. Now that you have studied the principles in this lesson, if a similar situation arose in the future how would you respond?

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**Answer Key to FEEDBACK**

1. Attitude
2. Christian fundamentals
3. (a) submissive spirit (b) dissented
4. (a) slander (b) insubordination
5. (a) submission (b) obedience
6. (a) obedience (b) submission
7. (a) unqualified (b) qualified
8. (a) submission (b) obedience
9. (a) person (b) disobey
10. You might have listed any three of the following:
  - (a) The Egyptian midwives and Moses' mother disobeyed Pharaoh's decree.
  - (b) The three Hebrew children did not bow to Nebuchadnezzar's golden image.
  - (c) Daniel disregarded the royal decree and continued to pray to God.
  - (d) Joseph and Mary took Jesus and fled to Egypt to avoid letting King Herod kill the child.
  - (e) Peter preached the gospel and obeyed God, not the Jewish council, yet he allowed himself to be taken to prison.
11. True
12. True
13. True
14. True
15. True

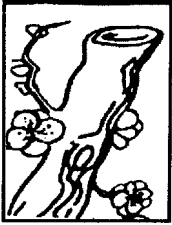
## **PART TWO**

### **DELEGATED AUTHORITIES**

## CHAPTER TWELVE

### THOSE WHOM GOD APPREHENDS AS DELEGATED AUTHORITIES

#### THOSE WHOM GOD APPREHENDS AS DELEGATED AUTHORITIES



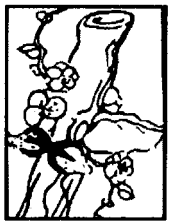
#### **FOUNDATION: RIGHTLY DIVIDING THE WORD OF TRUTH**

Romans 13:1



#### **REVIEW: IDENTIFYING IMPORTANT POINTS**

In Part One of our textbook, we studied authority and subjection. Now in Part Two, we turn attention to delegated authorities, those who represent God's authority. We find that it is essential that we learn to be subject to delegated authorities. Beyond a personal knowledge of authority and being under authority, God's delegated authority needs to fulfil three principal requirements: - (1) he must know that all authority comes from God, (2) he must deny himself, (3) he must constantly keep in fellowship with the Lord. We also learn that we should never try to establish our own authority but should God really appoint us, we must not disobey and recede spiritually; instead, we must obey and receive grace.



#### **FEEDBACK: AIDING COMPREHENSION AND RETENTION**

**DIRECTIONS:** Fill in each blank with the appropriate response the correct answer by circling TRUE or FALSE. Use your textbook, Spiritual Authority, as a guide.

#### **OBEYING DELEGATED AUTHORITIES AND BEING A DELEGATED AUTHORITY (p.115)**

1. One is not fit to be God's delegated authority unless he himself first knows how to be under authority. TRUE/FALSE

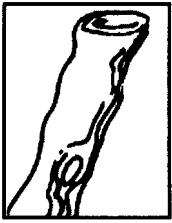
#### **THE REQUIREMENTS FOR A DELEGATED AUTHORITY (p116)**

2. God's delegated authority must know that all authority belongs to God. (Romans 13:1) TRUE/FALSE
3. Only what comes from God constitutes authority and commands man's obedience. A delegated authority is to represent God's authority, never to assume that he too, has authority. TRUE/FALSE
4. God establishes a person to be His delegated authority on the basis of that person's merit, ideas, opinions and noble thoughts. (p.116) TRUE/FALSE

5. God establishes a person to be His delegated authority on the basis of that person's knowledge of God's will.(p.116) TRUE/FALSE
6. Those in authority are responsible to instruct younger brothers and sisters in the Lord in the knowledge of God's will. (p.116) TRUE/FALSE
7. In every dealing with younger believers, it is imperative for the delegated authority to know what the Lord's will is in that particular matter. They may act as God's representatives and minister with authority. (p.117) TRUE/FALSE
8. One who acts as God's delegated authority needs to first know the will and way of God before he is able to put authority into effect. (p.117) TRUE/FALSE
9. Since there is no authority except God, what delegated authority does must come from he has learned before God and what he says issues from what he has experienced of him. (p.117) TRUE/FALSE
10. All authority depends upon what we have learned and known before God, not upon our age, sex, or personality. (p.117) TRUE/FALSE
11. God's delegated authority must deny himself, for God does not call us to substitute for His authority, but to represent His authority. (p.118) TRUE/FALSE
12. Before one can be used by God, he must be reduced to having no opinion. No thought, and no judgment. (p.118) TRUE/FALSE
13. Those who are God's delegated authorities need to maintain close fellowship with God. There must be not only communication but also communion. (p.119) TRUE/FALSE
14. The nearer one is to the Lord, the more clearly he sees his own faults. He has no confidence in this flesh; he begins to be afraid lest he err. (p.119) TRUE/FALSE
15. It is a serious thing for a servant of God to speak carelessly before he knows the will of God. (p.120) TRUE/FALSE

**NEVER TRY TO ESTABLISH ONE'S OWN AUTHORITY (p.112)**

16. Since authority is of God, we have none of it within us; we are but representatives. TRUE/FALSE
17. Since authority comes from God, we must live in communion with Him. If communion is cut off, authority also ceases. TRUE/FALSE
18. Authority is established by God; therefore a delegated authority should try to secure his authority. TRUE/FALSE
19. Should God really appoint you to be an authority, you have alternatives: either you disobey and recede spiritually, or you obey and receive grace. (p.122). TRUE/FALSE
20. When delegated authority entrusted to you is being tested defend yourself. After all, they are not rebelling against God, but you. (p.122). TRUE/FALSE



**TRANSFER  
PUTTING TRUTH INTO PRACTICE**

In the blanks provided, put a "T" if a statement accurately describes you and an "F" if it does not.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ I know how to be under authority; therefore, if I were asked to be a delegated authority, I could accept the responsibility.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ At times in the past I as a delegated authority, have not understood that I had no authority of my own and that I was representing God's authority; therefore, I tried to force my own authority upon others.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ From now on I will not exercise my own authority; instead I will earnestly seek God's will in each situation that I may truly act as God's representative and minister wisely and effectively.

**Answer Key to FEEDBACK**

- |          |           |
|----------|-----------|
| 1. True  | 11. True  |
| 2. True. | 12. False |
| 3. True  | 13. True  |
| 4. False | 14. True  |
| 5. True  | 15. True  |
| 6. True  | 16. True  |
| 7. True  | 17. True  |
| 8. True  | 18. False |
| 9. True  | 19. True  |
| 10. True | 20. False |



## CHAPTER THIRTEEN

### THE PRIMARY CREDENTIAL FOR DELEGATED AUTHORITIES Revelation.

#### THE PRIMARY CREDENTIAL FOR DELEGATED AUTHORITIES Revelation.



#### **FOUNDATION: RIGHTLY DIVIDING THE WORD OF TRUTH**

Exodus 3: 1-12; Numbers 12



#### **PREVIEW: IDENTIFYING IMPORTANT POINTS**

In Chapter Thirteen, as we consider the life of Moses, we discover the primary credential for delegated authorities is revelation.

No delegated authority given by God in the Old Testament was greater than that of Moses; therefore, he is used as the primary lesson to teach how a delegated authority should react when his authority is transgressed, ridiculed, opposed, and rejected.

From Moses, we learn not to listen to slander; instead, we let God do the listening. We learn to make no self defenses, for vindication comes from God. We learn to be meek and tender, not stiff-necked and arrogant. We learn that God's delegated authority should have no personal feeling, no axe to grind, no murmuring, no intention to judge.

The latter part of this chapter deals with how Moses proved himself to be God's delegated authority. Because he emptied himself, people met God's authority in him.



#### **FEEDBACK: AIDING COMPREHENSION AND RETENTION**

**DIRECTIONS:** Fill in each blank with the appropriate response using your textbook, Spiritual Authority, as a guide.

#### **DO NOT LISTEN TO SLANDEROUS WORDS (p.125)**

1. According to Numbers 12:1,2, when Aaron, and Miriam spoke slanderous words against God's delegated authority, Moses, who heard them? \_\_\_\_\_

#### **MAKE NO SELF DEFENSES (p.126)**

2. When God's delegated authority is slandered, his vindication or defenses should come from \_\_\_\_\_, not from man.
3. Authority and self-defenses are incompatible. The one against whom you defend yourself becomes your \_\_\_\_\_, He rises higher than you when you begin to answer his criticism.
4. Whenever one tries to \_\_\_\_\_ himself, he loses authority.

**BE VERY MEEK (p.126)**

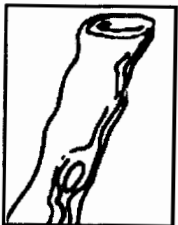
5. Personality, appearance, power, clever ideas, and eloquent lips do not represent authority, instead, they stand for the \_\_\_\_\_
6. The person least likely to be given authority is often the very one who considers himself a \_\_\_\_\_ (p.127)

**REVELATION: THE ONE CREDENTIAL OF AUTHORITY (p.127)**

7. A man's value as an authority before God is not decided by others judgment nor by his own judgment. He is measured by the \_\_\_\_\_ he receives from God.(p 129)
8. \_\_\_\_\_ is the evidence of authority. (p.129)

**NO PERSONAL FEELING (p.130)**

9. Authority is set up to execute God's will, not to uplift \_\_\_\_\_. It is to give God's children a sense of \_\_\_\_\_ not to give a sense of oneself (p.131)
10. To be a delegated authority is not an easy thing, because it requires the \_\_\_\_\_ of oneself. (p.131)



**TRANSFER  
PUTTING TRUTH INTO PRACTICE**

1. In this lesson, we learned that a person's value as an authority is not decided by his own judgment or the opinions of others; rather that person is measured by the revelation he or she receives from God. Are you consistently, daily spending quality time with God in the Word and in prayer that He might reveal Himself, His ways, and His wishes to you?
2. In the light of your response to question one, could you say yes today if you were asked to become a delegated authority in this church?
3. If your answer to question two was no, what are you going to do so that your answer could be yes if four months from now you were asked to assume a position of leadership?

**Answer key to FEEDBACK:**

- |                         |                        |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Jehovah, or the Lord | 6. authority           |
| 2. God                  | 7. revelation          |
| 3. Judge                | 8. revelation          |
| 4. justify              | 9. (a) oneself (b) God |
| 5. flesh                | 10. emptying           |

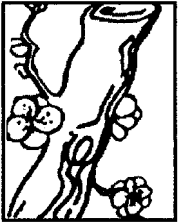
## CHAPTER FOURTEEN

### THE CHARACTER OF DELEGATED AUTHORITIES: Graciousness



#### FOUNDATION: RIGHTLY DIVIDING THE WORD OF TRUTH

Number 16



#### PREVIEW: IDENTIFYING IMPORTANT POINTS

To study the character of delegated authorities, Moses is again the example. In Chapter Fourteen, we see the delegated authority's state, attitude, and reaction when he is rebelled against openly.

We consider how Moses reacted when his authority was challenged. We learn that Moses fell on his face before God and attempted to restore the rebellious by his words of exhortation. He did not have a judging spirit, and he made intercession and atonement for the rebellious. Though Moses was personally rejected and despised; he bore the burdens and problems of many, truly caring for God's people.



#### FEEDBACK: AIDING COMPREHENSION AND RETENTION

DIRECTIONS: Check your basic understanding of the material using your textbook, Spiritual Authority, as a guide; fill in each blank with the correct answer.

#### MOSES FIRST REACTION TOWARDS REBELLION - FALLING ON HIS FACE (p.133)

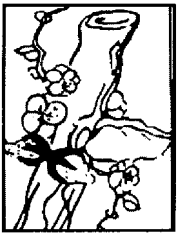
1. In Numbers Chapter 16, when Korah, Dothan, and Abiram (who were supported by 250 leaders of the congregation) verbally attacked and rebelled against Moses and Aaron, verse four reveals that Moses' first reaction was

#### EXHORTATION AND RESTORATION (p.134)

2. Moses did not defend himself against Korah; instead, he \_\_\_\_\_ Korah with words so as to \_\_\_\_\_ him.
3. To exhort means "to earnestly warn or advise." Moses was able to \_\_\_\_\_ when attacked, and then afterwards he gave his slanderers the whole night's time to \_\_\_\_\_
4. In Moses' actions in dealing with these rebellious ones in Numbers 16, we can see that those who represent authority seek for \_\_\_\_\_, not division, even after they have been rejected (p.135).
5. According to Number 16:27-35, when God executed a great judgment to establish Moses' authority, the \_\_\_\_\_ opened up and swallowed Korah, Dothan, Abiram, their families with their possessions, and \_\_\_\_\_ came forth from the Lord and consumed the 250 men who were offering incense. (p.135, 136)

## INTERCESSION AND ATONEMENT (p.136)

6. When the entire congregation murmured against Moses and Aaron, accusing them of killing the people of Jehovah (Numbers 16:4) and God threatened to consume the congregation instantly, Moses and Aaron fell on their faces making intercession for the people (v.45). Then Moses told Aaron to take his censer, go to the congregation, and make \_\_\_\_\_ for them. (v.46)
7. According to Numbers 16:49, the number of those in the congregation who were consumed by the plague before Aaron ran and stood between the living and dead and made atonement for their sin was \_\_\_\_\_
8. A \_\_\_\_\_ servant, though personally rejected and despised himself, will bear the burdens of many.
9. The Israelites rebelled against Moses, yet Moses bore their sins: they opposed and rejected him, yet he still \_\_\_\_\_ for them. (p.13)
10. To be \_\_\_\_\_ to others is the quality of those who are in authority (p.137)



### **TRANSFER: PUTTING TRUTH INTO PRACTICE**

1. Can you think of an authority who exhibited two or more of the following qualities in their dealings with you?
  - (a) Showed graciousness, even though you did not.
  - (b) Though rejected, continued to love you and intercede for you.
  - (c) Lovingly warned you of the errors you were making.
  - (d) Always sought your restoration, not your destruction.
2. Yes  No  Have you ever written a note of thanks to that person?
3. Yes  No  Are you now demonstrating the qualities listed in question one towards someone under your own authority?

### **Answer Key to FEEDBACK**

- |                        |               |
|------------------------|---------------|
| 1. he fell on his face | 5. (a) ground |
| 2. (a) exhorted        | (b) fire      |
| (b) restore            | 6. Atonement  |
| 3. (a) exhort          | 7. 14,700     |
| (b) repent             | 8. faithful   |
| 4. restoration         | 9. interceded |
| 10. gracious           |               |

## CHAPTER FIFTEEN

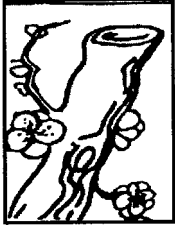
### THE BASIS FOR BEING DELEGATED AUTHORITIES: Resurrection

#### THE BASIS FOR BEING DELEGATED AUTHORITIES: Resurrection



#### FOUNDATION: RIGHTLY DIVIDING THE WORD OF TRUTH

Numbers 17: 1-11



#### PREVIEW: IDENTIFYING IMPORTANT POINTS

In the last two chapters, we have studied how Moses and God dealt with the rebellion of the people of Israel. In this chapter we will see how God puts an end to such rebellion by delivering His people from it and its consequence, death. God proved to Israel that the authorities came from Him and that He had a basis and reason for establishing them. That basis, we discover, is resurrection life. Since all spiritual authority is given by God, none of us has a right to be proud.



#### FEEDBACK: AIDING COMPREHENSION AND RETENTION

DIRECTIONS: Fill in each blank with the correct answer. Feel free to use your textbook, Spiritual Authority.

#### RESURRECTION LIFE IS THE BASIS OF AUTHORITY (p.140)

1. In Numbers 17, we see how God puts an end to the rebellion of the people of Israel by proving to Israel that the authorities came from \_\_\_\_\_ and that He had a basis and a reason for establishing them.
2. God commanded the twelve tribal leaders to get twelve \_\_\_\_\_ one for each father's house, and put them in the tent of meeting.
3. Though the twelve rods were dead, dry branches stripped of leaves and roots, God said if one should \_\_\_\_\_ it is the basis for election as well as for authority.
4. According to Numbers 17:8 as Aaron's rod lay in the tent of meeting, it \_\_\_\_\_ forth buds, produced blossoms and bore ripe fruit \_\_\_\_\_
5. The basis of ministry lies in being given \_\_\_\_\_ life apart from the natural life. This constitutes authority. (p.140, 141)
6. Authority does not depend on the person but on \_\_\_\_\_ Aaron was not different from the others except that God had \_\_\_\_\_ him and give him a resurrection life. (p.141)

**THE FOOLISH ARE PROUD (p.142)**

7. Aaron knew well that it was God who made his rod sprout, because the sprouting had been effected through \_\_\_\_\_ power. After that, Aaron knew that all ministry was based on sprouting not on himself. (p.143)

**THE CHARACTER OF DELEGATED AUTHORITIES: Graciousness**

8.. As we minister before God, we too, ought to know that ministry comes from \_\_\_\_\_, and resurrection comes from \_\_\_\_\_ (p.143)

**WHAT IS RESURRECTION? (p.144)**

9. \_\_\_\_\_ means that which is not of the natural, not of self or self-capability. Resurrection is that which I \_\_\_\_\_ but which God can; what I am not, but what God is.

**RESURRECTION IS THE PERMANENT RULE FOR SERVICE (p.144)**

10. Paul, in 2 Corinthians 4:7, compares himself to an earthen vessel, and compares the treasure within the vessel to the power of \_\_\_\_\_ (p.145)

11. We ourselves are not authority; authority comes from resurrection and not from \_\_\_\_\_ (p.145).



**TRANSFER:  
PUTTING TRUTH INTO PRACTICE**

Do you know a person, who after being completely dead spiritually, experienced resurrection life, began budding, blooming and bearing fruit for God, then became a delegated authority? If so, because you knew that person before his / her conversion and transformation, do you have difficulty acknowledging and submitting to God's authority in that person now? Now that you understand that ministry lies in being given resurrection life apart from natural life and that this constitutes authority, will your attitudes and actions toward that person be different in the future?

**Answer Key to FEEDBACK**

- |                     |                     |                     |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Him or God       | 7. Supernatural     |                     |
| 2. Rods             | 8. (a) resurrection | (b) Resurrection    |
| 3. (a) sprout       | (b) God             | 9. (a) Resurrection |
| 4. (a) sprouted     | (b) cannot          | 10. Resurrection    |
| 5. Resurrection     |                     | 11. Ourselves       |
| 6. (a) resurrection | (b) Chosen          |                     |

## CHAPTER SIXTEEN

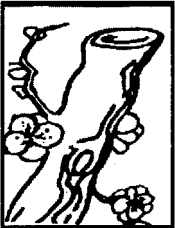
### MISUSE OF AUTHORITY AND GOD'S GOVERNMENTAL DISCIPLINE

#### MISUSE OF AUTHORITY AND GOD'S GOVERNMENTAL DISCIPLINE.



#### FOUNDATION: RIGHTLY DIVIDING THE WORD OF TRUTH

Number 20:2-3,7 -13; Numbers 20:23-28, Deuteronomy 32:48-52



#### PREVIEW IDENTIFYING IMPORTANT POINTS

In chapter sixteen, we study the principle of God's governmental discipline when authority is misused. We learn that to be an authority is to represent God; therefore, delegated authority must not misrepresent God, giving people a wrong impression about Him. An authority must always be like God, otherwise, If he does not repent and confess his fault and acknowledge them as his own doing, God will have to Vindicate Himself. God is most strict with those who represent Him, for nothing is more serious than for a delegated authority to do wrong.

The latter part of chapter sixteen stresses that all authority flows from ministry, and that ones authority cannot exceed his ministry. Ministry grows from resurrection life and is rooted in God.



#### FEEDBACK: AIDING COMPREHENSION AND RETENTION

DIRECTIONS: Circle the correct answer, TRUE or FALSE, for each statement below. Use your textbook, Spiritual Authority, if you need assistance.

#### DELEGATED AUTHORITY OUGHT TO SANCTIFY GOD. (p.148)

1. In Numbers 20:2-3,7-13, when Moses became angry, called the people rebels, and disobediently smote the rock twice with the rod, he miss-represented God and gave the people a wrong impression about God (p.149) TRUE/FALSE
2. To be an authority is to represent God. Whether it be in wrath or mercy, An authority must always be like God. (p.149) TRUE/FALSE
3. If anyone in authority misrepresents God giving a wrong impression of God, and does not confess it; God will have to vindicate Himself. (p.150) TRUE/FALSE

#### TO BE A DELEGATED AUTHORITY IS A SERIOUS MATTER (p.150)

4. The fact that Moses and Aaron committed one mistake and were barred From Canaan shows how serious it is to be a delegated authority. The more authority which is delegated, the severer are God's dealings.(Also see Luke 12:48) TRUE/FALSE

5. Nothing is more serious nor regarded more severely than for a delegated Authority to do wrongly. (p.151) TRUE/FALSE
6. The delegated authority must not render judgment carelessly; he must Control his spirit and his mouth, especially at the time of provision (p.151) TRUE/FALSE

**AUTHORITY COMES FROM MINISTRY, MINISTRY FROM RESURRECTION(p.152)**

7. All authority is based on ministry. Aaron possessed authority because he had service before God; thus, his censer could atone for the people and cause the plague to cease, whereas the censer of the 250 leaders was cursed by God. (p.153) TRUE/FALSE
8. One's authority can exceed one's ministry. (p.53) TRUE/FALSE
9. If a delegated authority errs, God will come to judge, for the highest principle in God's government is His own vindication. TRUE/FALSE



**TRANSFER:  
PUTTING TRUTH INTO PRACTICE**

Has a delegated authority over you ever misrepresented God, thus giving you a wrong impression of God? Whether that person was your mother or father, your husband, a Christian employer, a former pastor or church leader, etc., now that you understand the seriousness of his sin before God, if you have not already done so, will you forgive that person and make intercession for him?

**Answer Key to FEEDBACK**

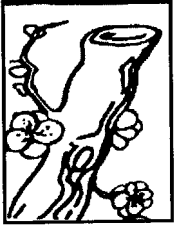
1. True
2. True
3. True
4. True
5. True
6. True
7. True
8. False
9. True
10. True



# CHAPTER SEVENTEEN

## DELEGATED AUTHORITIES MUST BE UNDER AUTHORITY

### DELEGATED AUTHORITIES MUST BE UNDER AUTHORITY



#### FOUNDATION:

#### RIGHTLY DIVIDING THE WORD OF TRUTH

I Samuel 24:1-6, I Samuel 26:7-12, II Samuel 1:5-15,  
II Samuel 2:1, II Samuel 4:5-12, II Samuel 5:1-3,  
II Samuel 6:16-23, II Samuel 7:7-18, II Samuel 15 :19-20  
II Samuel 15:24-26, II Samuel 16:5-14, II Samuel 9:9-15



#### PREVIEW:

#### IDENTIFYING IMPORTANT POINTS

In this chapter, David is used to illustrate the principle that delegated authorities must be under authority. We also are exposed to eight important principles in regard to delegated authority. First, whoever is to be God's delegated authority must learn not to try to secure authority for himself. Second, authority cannot be imposed upon others; an authority must be both God's choice and the church's choice. Third, one should never permit another person's authority to be damaged in order to establish his own. Fourth, in the presence of God, we have no authority; therefore, we should be lowly and humble before God and before His people. Fifth, the more authority one possesses, the less that one is conscious of it. Sixth, authority does not need to be self-supported. Seventh, the man of authority whom God establishes is able to endure provocation. And eighth, he who knows how to obey best is the one best qualified to be in authority.



#### FEEDBACK:

#### AIDING COMPREHENSION AND RETENTION

DIRECTIONS: using your textbook, Spiritual Authority, as a reference, fill in each blank with the correct answer.

#### WAITING FOR GOD TO SECURE AUTHORITY.

1. As David's example in I and II Samuel reveals, whoever is to be God's delegated authority must learn not to try to \_\_\_\_\_. Authority for himself; rather, he must wait for God to do it.

#### AUTHORITIES MUST BE BOTH GOD'S CHOICE AND THE CHURCH CHOICE(p.161)

2. Though David had been anointed by Samuel and chosen by God, he wisely waited to be \_\_\_\_\_ by the people of God. (p.162).
3. In the church, one should not force himself upon others. One must not only be anointed by \_\_\_\_\_ he must also be anointed by His \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Authority can neither be \_\_\_\_\_ nor \_\_\_\_\_ upon others; it must be both the establishing by God and the anointing by men.

#### MAINTAINING AUTHORITY. (p.163)

5. All those who know God can wait. If one's condition is right, he will be recognized not only by the \_\_\_\_\_, as His representative but also by the church as God's representative.

6. No one should ever permit another person's authority to be \_\_\_\_\_ in order to establish his own
7. When King David danced before the ark (II Samuel 6), Mical, his wife, saw it and \_\_\_\_\_ him in he heart because he did not maintain his dignity. But David felt that in the \_\_\_\_\_ presence of God, he had no \_\_\_\_\_ whatsoever-he was not king in God's presence.
8. Anyone who represents authority should be lowly and \_\_\_\_\_ before God an before His people.(p.164)

**NO SELF-CONSCIOUSNESS OF AUTHORITY(p.164)**

9. Whoever thinks or feels that he is an authority is not \_\_\_\_\_ to be that authority. The more Authority one possesses, the less that one is conscious of it.(p.165)

**AUTHORITY CAN ENDURE PROVOCATION(p.166)**

10. The man of authority whom God establishes is able to endure \_\_\_\_\_

**LEARN TO HUMBLE ONESELF UNDER MIGHTY HAND OF GOD.(p.166)**

11. David learned to \_\_\_\_\_ himself under the mighty hand of God. He did not fight for \_\_\_\_\_ all his battles were fought for the people of God. (p.167)



**TRANSFER:  
PUTTING TRUTH INTO PRACTICE**

**A PERSONAL PROJECT FOR PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE**

Answer each question that applies to you and rate yourself on a scale of 1 (weakness) to 5 (strength)

- |           |    |  |
|-----------|----|--|
| 1 2 3 4 5 | 1. | I do not try to gain authority or promotion through manipulation; instead, I wait for God to promote me.   |
| 1 2 3 4 5 | 2. | I have not allowed another person's authority to be damaged in order to establish my own   |
| 1 2 3 4 5 | 3. | Even though I may be an important person in the eyes of some people, when I worship God I pay no attention to all that; instead, like King David who worshiped |
| 1 2 3 4 5 | 4. | When I am provoked and others question my authority, I do not get angry and seek to defend myself. Instead, I look to God for my vindication.                  |

Do your responses indicate an area of weakness that needs prayerful attention? If so, what goals do you need to set up regarding your future behaviour?

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

**Answer to FEEDBACK**

- |                                    |                              |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. secure                          | 7 (a) despised (b) authority |
| 2. anointed                        | 8 humbly                     |
| 3. (a) God (b) people              | 9 worthy                     |
| 4. (a) self instigated (b) Imposed | 10 provocations              |
| 5 Lord                             | 11 (a) humble (b) Himself    |
| 6 damage                           |                              |

## CHAPTER EIGHTEEN

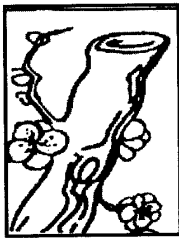
### THE DAILY LIFE AND INWARD MOTIVATION OF DELEGATED AUTHORITIES

#### THE DAILY LIFE AND INWARD MOTIVATION OF DELEGATED AUTHORITIES



#### **FOUNDATION: RIGHTLY DIVIDING THE WORD OF TRUTH**

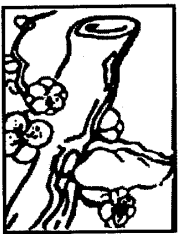
Mark 10:35-45



#### **PREVIEW: IDENTIFYING IMPORTANT POINTS**

Are there conditions for authority? In chapter eighteen we look at the clearest passages in which Jesus gave instruction on authority Mark chapter ten. Jesus explained that except men drink the Lord's cup and receive the Lord's baptism, they can neither get near to the Lord nor possess authority. Those who are obedient to God are connected only to God's will; however, before doing the will of God, they must first be subject to God's authority. They must be broken in order that life can be released. Yet strife results when this life flow is released because of the great difference between those who belong to the Lord and those who do not.

To exercise authority does not mean ruling or lording over God's children, rather, authority is humbly serving others. Indeed, the condition for authority is a sense of incompetence and unworthiness, for God does not use the proud. We must learn to know ourselves in the light of God.



#### **FEEDBACK: AIDING COMPREHENSION AND RETENTION**

**DIRECTIONS:** Fill in each blank with the appropriate response. Feel free to refer to your textbook, Spiritual Authority.

#### **DRINK THE LORD'S CUP AND BE BAPTIZED WITH THE LORD'S BAPTISM(p.169)**

1. The clearest passage in which the Lord gave instruction on authority is found in the \_\_\_\_\_ chapter of Mark.(p.170)
2. When James and John asked that they might sit, one on the Lord's right hand, and one on His left in glory, their request carried two meanings; one, to be near the Lord; two, to have more (p.170)
3. The Lord answered James and John's request by saying that they must \_\_\_\_\_ is cup and be \_\_\_\_\_ with His baptism before they could sit at His right or left. (p.170)

#### **WHAT ARE THE LORD'S CUP AND BAPTISM? (p.170)**

4. In Matthew 26:39, Jesus drinking the cup meant His \_\_\_\_\_ to the mighty authority of God in obeying God's will.(p171).

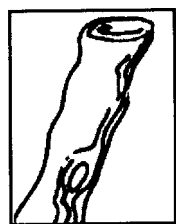
5. In Mark 10, when Jesus asked James and John, "Are ye able to drink the cup that I drink?" His question to James, and John was: "Are you able to \_\_\_\_\_ to God as I yield?" This is the Lord's cup. (p.172)
6. The Lord seemed to say to James and John: "Whether or not you may sit at My right hand and on My left depends on your drinking My cup, which in this case is absolute \_\_\_\_\_ to the will of God. (p.172)
7. The Lord's baptism is first death and then \_\_\_\_\_ is realized, with the consequence of baptism being to divide people. (p.173)
8. Unless a man is \_\_\_\_\_ life cannot be released. (p.173)
9. The release of God's life flow within us causes \_\_\_\_\_ between those who belong the Lord and those who do not, between those who pay the price and those who do not, between those who are faithful and those who are not and between those who accept trials and those who refuse trials. (p.174)

**AUTHORITY IS NOT LORDING OVER BUT HUMBLY SERVING (p.174)**

10. We should not have the thought of ruling or lording over God's children, for to exercise authority and to rule the desires of the \_\_\_\_\_

**TO BE GREAT, ONE MUST BE A SERVANT (p.175)**

11. The authority who God appoints must have a spiritual background- he must drink the cup, that is, absolutely obey God's \_\_\_\_\_ and he must receive the baptism, that is, accept death in order to release, \_\_\_\_\_
12. Ministry is the basis of authority. Ministry comes from \_\_\_\_\_ service comes from ministry, and, \_\_\_\_\_ from service.



**TRANSFER:  
PUTTING TRUTH INTO PRACTICE**

Remember these principles shared in the text?

"Unless a man is broken, life cannot be released, - however, the release of God's life flow Within us causes division between those who belong to the Lord and those who pay the price and those who do not, between those who are faithful and those who are not."

Because you have been broken and God's life has been released within you, has division come between you and ....

- Your mate
- A close friend
- A fellow Christian
- A fellow employee
- Your parents
- Your children
- Certain relatives
- Another?

Now that you understand why the division occurred, will you forgive that person, release him/her to God, and pray that they, too, might come to experience the marvellous flow of God's life within?

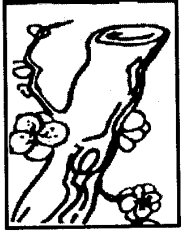
**Answer key to FEEDBACK:**

- |               |                   |                              |               |
|---------------|-------------------|------------------------------|---------------|
| 1. Tenth      | 2. Authority      | 3. (a) drink                 | (b) baptized  |
| 4. Subjection | 5. Yield          | 6. Obedience                 |               |
| 7. Life       | 8. Broken         | 9. division, or difficulties |               |
| 10. Gentiles  | (a) will (b) life | 11. (a) resurrection         | (b) authority |

## CHAPTER NINETEEN

# DELEGATED AUTHORITY MUST SANCTIFY THEMSELVES

### DELEGATED AUTHORITIES MUST SANCTIFY THEMSELVES



#### **FOUNDATION: RIGHTLY DIVIDING THE WORD OF TRUTH**

John 17:19



#### **PREVIEW: IDENTIFYING IMPORTANT POINTS**

We have already learned that spiritual authority is on the one, hand based spirituality, and on the other hand based upon the humble and obedient condition of the man before God. In this Chapter, we also learn that one who is to be in authority must be sanctified from the crowd.

We are challenged with the principle that for the sake of God's authority, the delegate authority must refrain from doing many things. Therefore, to be in authority often means loneliness; it requires restraining one's affections. It means that in life and enjoyment, those in authority must distinguish between the holy and common, between the clean and the unclean.

The latter part of the chapter underlines that principle that for the sake of God and His people, the delegated authority sanctifies himself.



#### **FEEDBACK: AIDING COMPREHENSION AND RETENTION**

**DIRECTIONS:** Using the following questions to check your basic understanding the material in this chapter, fill in each blank with correct response. Feel free to refer to your textbook, *Spiritual Authority*. for help

#### **WHAT DOES "THE LORD SANCTIFYING HIMSELF" MEANS? (p.179)**

1. Jesus said, "for their sakes I \_\_\_\_\_ Myself, that they themselves also may be sanctified in truth (John 17:19),
2. Spiritual authority, on one hand, is based upon \_\_\_\_\_, the other hand, upon the humble and man before God and on condition of the \_\_\_\_\_ man before God.
3. He who is to be in authority must also be \_\_\_\_\_ from the crowd.
4. "the Lord sanctifying Himself" means that for the sake of His disciples that Lord refrained from \_\_\_\_\_ many things which were legitimate to Him, from \_\_\_\_\_ many words which might lawfully have spoken, from maintaining many \_\_\_\_\_ which He could have justifiably had, from putting on many kinds of which would have been proper for Him, and from taking many \_\_\_\_\_ which would have normal to Him.
5. For the sake of God's authority Jesus refrained from doing many things in order to manifest His separation from the world. This is what is meant by the Lord \_\_\_\_\_ Himself. (p.180)

## TO BE IN AUTHORITY OFTEN MEANS LONELINESS

6. Loneliness is the mark of authority. It is not due to \_\_\_\_\_, but for the sake of representing God's authority. (p.181)
7. The opposite of holiness is \_\_\_\_\_ not sin. To be sanctified is to be different from others because of the restraint of God in the spirit. (p.181)
8. One who is in authority represents \_\_\_\_\_ in his every word and action. (p.181)
9. \_\_\_\_\_ means that others may, but cannot. (p.182)
10. The people of Israel died because of their sins, but priests may die because of not being people in authority must pay the price for it. (p.183 )
11. The anointing oil sanctifies us from our natural \_\_\_\_\_ as well as from customary conduct. We should respect the anointing oil which God gives us. (p.183)

## SANCTIFIED IN LIFE AND ENJOYMENT (p.185),

12. The higher the office, the \_\_\_\_\_ the demand. The degree of \_\_\_\_\_ to God becomes the degree of His demand. (p.184)

## AUTHORITY IS BASED ON SANCTIFICATION

13. Authority has its foundation in \_\_\_\_\_ without sanctification there can be no authority. (p.185)
14. Deeper sanctification means we will be distinguished from the \_\_\_\_\_, although not separated from God's children as though we were holier than they. (p.186)



### **TRANSFER: PUTTING TRUTH INTO PRACTICE**

Now that you know you must sanctify yourself for the sake of others because God's hand is upon you for leadership, in what areas or areas is the Spirit of God speaking to you in regard to your personal sanctification.?

- Refraining from doing things which were once legitimate to you
- Refraining from speaking words which formerly you might have lawfully spoken
- Ridding yourself of attitudes which you could have justified had
- Refraining from putting on certain apparel which you once considered proper for you
- Refraining from certain foods which would have been normal for you in the past

Because you understand that you must obey God while seeking to avoid spiritual pride, having "holier than-thou" attitudes, or trying to do the work of the Holy Spirit by forcing your convictions upon others, will you pause right now and ask God **for** His wisdom and strength as you "pay the price" for the place of authority God has chosen for you?

### **Answer Key to FEEDBACK**

- |                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| 1. Sanctify        | 2. (a) spirituality (b) obedient                            |
| 3. Sanctified      | 4. (a) doing (b) speaking (c) attitude (d) apparel (e) food |
| 5. Sanctifying     | 6. Pride  |
| 7. Commonness      | 8. God  |
| 9. Holiness        | 9. Sanctified   |
| 11. Affection      | 12. (a) stricter (b) nearness                               |
| 13. Sanctification | 14. Common  |



# CHAPTER TWENTY

## THE CONDITION OF BEING DELEGATED AUTHORITIES

### THE CONDITION OF BEING DELEGATED AUTHORITIES



#### **FOUNDATION: RIGHTLY DIVIDING THE WORD OF TRUTH**

Ephesians 5:22, 25, 28, 33; Ephesians 6:1, 4, 9; Psalm 82:1-2, Titus 1:6-8,  
1 Timothy 3:4-6, Titus 2:15, 1 Timothy 4:12, 1 Peter 2:21



#### **PREVIEW: IDENTIFYING IMPORTANT POINTS**

In this final chapter we study the authorities whom God has established in the family, in the world, and in the church. We examine the basic requirements and . essential qualities for these authorities.

We are reminded that to represent authority is to represent God: to be in authority is to be an example to all.



#### **FEEDBACK: AIDING COMPREHENSION AND RETENTION**

**DIRECTIONS:** Using your textbook, *Spiritual Authority*, as a guide, fill in, each blank with the correct response.

#### **HUSBANDS (p. 188)**

1. The Bible teaches that wives should be subject to their husbands: yet husbands should exercise authority with a condition. That condition, according to Ephesians 5, is that if husbands wish to represent God's authority, they must \_\_\_\_\_ their own wives.

#### **PARENTS(p.188)**

2. The objective of all the authority parents have towards their children, is to instruct, to bring their children up in the discipline and admonition of the Lord. No thought of over lording or punishing is involved; the intention is for \_\_\_\_\_ and loving \_\_\_\_\_.  
(p.189)

#### **MASTERS (p.189)**

3. Master should not threaten or \_\_\_\_\_ their servants, for He who is both their master and their servants' Master is in heaven and there is no partiality with Him (Ephesians 6:9)
4. The more a person knows about authority, the less arrogant and intimidating he becomes. The indispensable attitude of those in authority are \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_

#### **RULER: (p.191)**

5. According to the Old Testament, the basic requirements for governing authorities are \_\_\_\_\_, impartiality, justice, and care for the \_\_\_\_\_. These are the principles which rulers must keep. (p.190)

### **ELDER: (p. 190)**

6. Elder are the authorities in the local assembly of believers. One essential quality of elders, as enumerated in Titus 1, is \_\_\_\_\_
7. Another essential quality of an elder, according to 1 Timothy 3 and 4, is that he must manage his own \_\_\_\_\_ well. (The term "household") applies not only to parents or wives, but especially to the children.
8. An elder must not be a \_\_\_\_\_ person. Whoever is conscious of authority is not fit to be an elder, nor can he manage the affairs of the church.

### **WORKERS (p.191)**

9. In order for a worker in the church not to be despised by others, he must sanctify himself. It takes \_\_\_\_\_ to draw respect from others and to qualify oneself as God's representative.
10. Paul exhorts young workers that they should not let themselves be despised because of their youth; instead, they should set an \_\_\_\_\_ for the other believers.



### **TRANSFER: PUTTING TRUTH INTO PRACTICE**

In this lesson, we studied qualities one in authority should possess. Take a moment to meditate upon the list below, check the qualities that are weak or absent in you, and ask the Spirit of the Lord to manifest in your life these fruits of righteousness which are by Christ Jesus.

- Love
- Gentleness
- Righteousness
- Impartiality
- Justice
- Care for the poor
- Self control
- Ability to manage own household well
- Humility
- Self discipline
- An exemplary life

### **Answer key to FEEDBACK:**

1. Love
2. (a) education (b) education
3. Provoke
4. (a) gentleness (b) love
5. (a) righteousness (b) poor
6. Self-control
7. Household
8. Self-control
9. Self-discipline
10. example



