

The Nature of Authority

1. What is authority?

- the power or right to give orders, make decisions, and enforce obedience:

2. What is the origin of all authority?

- a. The Creator, God the Father
 - i. God's Word

Isaiah 45:9

II Timothy 3:15-17

3. What authority has God ordained?

- a. Mankind over the natural elements of the Earth

Genesis 1:26

Genesis 9:1,2

- b. Governments over citizens

Romans 13:1-4

I Peter 2:13-17

****Relational Authorities****

What is the intended nature of authority?

- Leadership and oversight with grace, humility, and service

- c. Employee over employer

Colossians 3:22-4:1

- d. Teacher over student

John 13:16

- e. Pastors / elder / bishop over church members

I Peter 5:1-5

Hebrews 13:17

- f. Family Structure

- i. Parents over Children

Ephesians 6:1-4

Hebrews 12:7,8

- ii. Wives under the leadership of husbands

Ephesians 5:22-28

****Those that are placed in authority are not more valuable, important, etc.****

Ephesians 6:9

Selected Scripture

October 22, 2023

God Ordained Authority

Infallible authority:

God has absolute authority over all of His creation

- Potter and clay analogies

Isaiah 29:16

Romans 9:20,21

** This is a completely trustworthy, loving, and never changing authority.

His Word is the authority for our lives

II Timothy 3:15-17

II Peter 3:15,16 lets us understand that both the Old Testament and New Testament are Scripture

Relations between humanity and

Absolute Authority

God and therefore in function His Word

Family, Church, Employment, and Government

** Humanity over creation

A. Family Structure

- a. Husband and wife

Ephesians

Romans 13:1

Where do we see God's Word talk about authority?

Creator to creation

Family structure

- Husband and wife
- Parents and children

Church structure

- Overseer, elder, bishop, pastor and members of the congregation

Government structure

- Police officers and people

Selected Scripture

October 22, 2023

Teachers and student

Work situations

- Boss and worker
- Master and servant / slave

Authority level does not equate to value

- Genesis 1:27 (man and woman both created in the image of God)

Authorities are servants

Authority doesn't inherently mean greater value

Selected Scripture
October 22, 2023