

Lesson
19**Exercise 5: Authority**

In this lesson we will consider what the Bible teaches about authority. This is one of the most important, foundational truths within the scriptures. In the religious world today, mankind has established many different sources of authority. Ultimately when we study with others about this subject, we want to help them understand why we practice what we practice from a spiritual perspective and also teach them what must guide us spiritually in our day-to-day lives.

To assist you in your study of this subject, read the article, “Bible Authority, a Closer Look” found on our web site, www.biblequestions.org under the section on “Authority-Articles.” Also, refer to Lessons 3-6 where this subject was covered in detail

1. Using a Bible dictionary, list the four nouns and three verbs translated “authority” in the Greek New Testament along with their definitions. List at least one passage where the words are used.

Noun 1:

Noun 2:

Noun 3:

Noun 4:

Verb 1:

Verb 2:

Verb 3:

2. In Matthew 21:23-27 Jesus was confronted by the chief priests and the elders of the people. Why was he confronted? What was he trying to teach them by his answer?
3. Why must we have authority for all that we practice religiously? What are the dangers to us as Christians and to the church if we do not use the right source of authority?

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4. What are the three ways we establish Bible authority? Define each one and list at least one passage which illustrates each one.
5. Look at the following scriptures and list what you would be trying to teach someone about authority when you refer to these passages:

John 14:21, 23-

Colossians 2:8-

Galatians 6:6-9-

2 John 9-

Acts 26:9-15-

Psalm 94:11, Isaiah 55:9, 1 Corinthians 3:18-20-

Mark 7:1-13-

6. List the sources of authority for the religions listed below that are used in addition to or as a replacement for the Bible:

Baptist-

Catholic-

Islam-

Jehovah Witness-

Mormon-

Methodist-

7. For the religions listed in question 6, what is the source of their authority? If you were studying with someone who was in one of these religions, how would you approach the subject of authority?
8. What is the source of authority for non-religious people in the world today? What are the consequences of them using that source?
9. Jesus said in Matthew 28:18 “All authority has been given to me in heaven and on earth.” What do we learn from his statement?
10. What do we learn about authority from Romans 13:1-7?
11. What do we learn about authority from 1 Timothy 2:12?