

BIBLE STUDY
REV. DR. DARRYL B. STARNES, SR. INSTRUCTOR

Topic: **SPIRITUAL AUTHORITY**
Lesson # 1: **“THE ORIGIN OF HUMAN REBELLION”**
SCRIPTURE LESSON: **GENESIS 2: 8-9, 15-17: 3: 1-19**

DEFINITION: Authority (exousia) is the rightful power to act, own or control.

Understanding what authority is begins we one realizes that absolute authority belongs to God and that all other authority is therefore subordinate to His and delegated from Him. The power to rightfully act, own or control comes from God.

Genesis 2: 8-9 God creates an environment in which man has a choice.
1. The Tree of Life.
2. The Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil.

Genesis 2:15-17 God commands Adam not to eat from the second tree.
1. Why is the second tree forbidden?
2. Why does eating of it result in death?

Genesis 3:1-5 Satan challenges God’s authority.
1. First, he makes us question what God has said.
2. Then he makes us question the truthfulness or reliability of what God has said.
3. Next, he makes us question God’s right to command us and His good will toward us.

Genesis 3: 6-7 Challenging God’s authority leads to rebellion.
1. First, our perceptions are altered (what God previously told us was no good for us suddenly seems to appear “good, desirable and pleasing.”
2. Then our actions become wrong (she ate what was forbidden).
3. We then influence other to do wrong (she gave some to her husband).
4. Right and wrong were now in “their eyes.”

Genesis 3: 8-19 The results of Rebellion are always devastating.
1. Guilt
2. Hiding from God
3. Punishment

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Topic: SPIRITUAL AUTHORITY
Lesson # 2: "THE REBELLION"
SCRIPTURE LESSON: GENESIS 9: 18-27

EXPLANATION: The Christian has two obligations to those whom God has placed in authority in their lives: (1) Submission (the maintaining of a proper attitude) is absolute; (2) Obedience (the maintaining of proper actions) is relative. HEBREWS: 13: 17

Genesis 9: 18-19 Noah had three sons under his authority: (1) Shem; (2) Japheth; and (3) Ham.

Genesis 9: 20-21 Noah's Irresponsible Actions:
1. Drunkness
2. Nakedness

NOTE: Wrongdoing on the part of one in authority never justifies, but usually results in wrongdoing on the part of some who are under his authority.

Genesis 9: 22 Ham's Response: Rebellion (He assumed an improper attitude and participate in improper actions).
1. He disrespected his father's privacy.
2. He took pleasure in seeing his father's faults.
3. He publicized his father's sin.

Genesis 9: 23 The Response of Shem and Japheth: Submission and Obedience (They maintained proper attitude and actions inspite of their father's faults).
1. They refused to look upon their father's nakedness.
2. They refused to publicize their father's sin.
3. They covered their father's nakedness, maintaining their respect for him.

Genesis 9: 24-25 Ham's Reward: A Curse.
1. There is no protection for those who rebel.
2. Rebellion affects not only the rebel but also his children.

Genesis 9: 26, 27 The Reward of Shem and Japheth: A Blessing:
1. God protects and blesses those who respect authority.
2. That Protection and blessing often spills over unto their children.

NOTE: Only when one is submissive and obedient to God, the Ultimate authority, can be submissive and obedient to God's delegated authorities.

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Lesson # 3: **“THE REBELLION OF NADAB AND ABIHU”**
SCRIPTURE LESSON: **LEVITICUS 10: 1-7**

EXPLANATION: The Rebellion fo Nadab and Abihu was one of usurping authority which had not been delegated to them; doing something that they had not given the authority to do.

Leviticus 10: 1a Aaron, the brother of Moses, was appointed High Priest by God (He was given authority over all activities in the temple).

Nadub and Abihu, the sons of Aaron, served as priest in the temple, but under Aaron’s authority.

Leviticus 10: 1b Nadab and Abihu offered “strange fire” before the Lord.

1. They were qualified but not authorized.
2. They offered sacrifices without Aaron’s order.
3. They assumed authority not delegated to them
4. They attempted to serve God without respect for His delegated authority (they served God independent of God’s delegated authority).

Leviticus 10: 2 God punishes rebellion quickly and harshly.

1. Service which is disobedient to delegated authority does not impress God.
2. Service that does not respect authority results in God’s wrath.

Leviticus 10: 3 God demands worship and service which sanctifies and glorifies Him.

1. True service is initiated by God (Strange fire originates from men).
 - a. It does not require knowing God’s will nor obeying God’s authority.
 - b. It is done through man’s own zeal.
 - c. It ends in punishment, often death.
2. God’s work is the coordination of authority.
 - a. There is someone responsible, others are helper.
 - b. There is someone in authority, others are under authority.
 - c. To act independently is rebellion
 - d. To serve without first respecting authority is to offer “strange fire”.
 - e. Rebellion changes the nature of the sacrifice.
 - f. To be out of coordination with the one in authority is to be out of coordination with God.

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Topic: **SPIRITUAL AUTHORITY**
Lesson # 4: **“THE REVILING OF AARON AND MIRIAM”**
SCRIPTURE LESSON: **NUMBERS 12: 1-16**

THE KEY CHARACTERS:

Moses, God’s appointed leader
Aaron, the High Priest and older brother of Moses
Miriam, the older sister of Moses

THE CENTRAL THOUGHT:

To speak out against “representative authority” is rebellion and incurs the immediate wrath of God.

- NUMBERS 12: 1-2** Miriam and Aaron spoke against Moses (criticized).
1. Their verbal abuse was precipitated by a wrong act on behalf of Moses. (He married a non-Jew).
 2. In their attack they challenged Moses’ authority.
 3. They also placed themselves on his same level of authority and failed to recognize God’s delegated authority.
 4. God heard and saw their rebellion.
- NUMBERS 12: 3** Moses’ meekness enabled him to hold his peace.
1. Moses was the meekest man on earth.
 2. He had the power to retaliate but he did not.
 3. He knew that his authority to lead came from God.
 4. He therefore did not have to defend himself.
- NUMBERS 12: 4-10** God acted quickly and defended his delegated authority and punished the rebels.
1. Rebellion never goes unnoticed by God above.
 2. God acted immediately as He always does in response to rebellion.
 3. He summoned all three, but He chastened Aaron and Miriam.
 - a. He first let them know that authority is God’s choice and that Moses was His choice to lead the people.
 - b. Then He let them know that they should have been afraid to speak against his delegated authority.

4. The rebellion angered God as it always does.
5. God departed, but smote Miriam with Leprosy.

NUMBERS 12: 11-12

Aaron repents and pleads for mercy on behalf of Miriam.

1. Confession of sin, accompanied by godly sorrow (repentance) can be a sign that rebellion is gone from the heart.
2. Restoration must be sought through the delegated authority previously offended.

NUMBERS 12: 13

Moses forgives and pleads to God on behalf of those who had offended him.

NUMBERS 12: 14-16

God has mercy and lessens the punishment, sparing her life.

1. God removed the leprosy, but made her stay in isolation for seven days outside the camp.
3. The Children of Israel, however, could not continue their journey until Miriam was brought in again into the camp.
 1. Rebellion not only affects those who rebel, but it also keeps the community of God's people from moving forward until God deals with the rebellion in their midst.
 2. Rebellion does not always result in death, but it always results in quick punishment for the rebels and delays and setbacks for the people of God.

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Topic: SPIRITUAL AUTHORITY
Lesson # 5: "THE REBELLION OF KORAH, DATHAN ABIRAM
SCRIPTURE LESSON: NUMBERS 16 : 1-50

THE KEY CHARACTERS:

Moses, God's appointed leader
Aaron, God's appointed High Priest
Korah, a Levite
Dathan and Abiram, Reubenites
On, another Reubenite
250 Leaders of the Assembly (famous, popular, well-respected)

THE CENTRAL THOUGHT:

Collective rebellion results in collective punishment. Even when the majority goes against those in authority, the majority must be punished for rebellion. There is no protection in numbers when we rebel, for God is the one who gives out the punishment.

NUMBERS 16: 1 – 3 Korah, Dathan, Abiram, and on incite a rebellion.

1. They challenge the authority of Moses and Aaron.
2. They accused them of usurping authority, trying to do too much, and putting themselves above the people, who also are as holy as they.

NUMBERS 16: 4-7 Moses' Initial Response:

1. He humbles himself (falls on his face).
2. He decides to let God deal with the matter.
3. He tells them what they to approach God.

NUMBERS 16: 8-17 Moses realizes the wrath that awaits them and tries to reason with the rebels to save their lives.

1. He tells Korah to consider that God already made him a Levite (One who serves in the Tabernacle and ministers before the people). You want to be more than God has called you to be.
2. He summoned Dathan and Abiram, but they refused to even talk. They just continued to attack Moses' leadership and complain.
3. This angered Moses and he decided to just let God deal with the rebellion.

- NUMBERS 16: 18-21** God prepares to destroy the entire congregation of people who joined in the rebellion.
- NUMBERS 16: 22-27** Moses successfully pleads with God not to destroy the entire congregation, only the leaders of the rebellion. At God's command, he warns the people get away from the rebels.
- NUMBERS 16: 28-35** God pours out His wrath on the rebels, their families, and followers.
1. The earth swallows the four ringleaders, their families and all who were near them, as well as all their possessions.
 2. Fire from heaven consumed the 250 leaders who were trying to offer incense.
- NUMBERS 16: 36-40** God established a memorial as a reminder of the consequences of rebellion with the metal from censors that the rebellious leaders used.
- NUMBERS 16: 41** The people of the congregation rebel again and blame the rebels' death on Moses.
- NUMBERS 16: 42-46** God suddenly and dramatically appears and begins to send a plague which begins to kill the people.
Moses realizing what was happening, instructs Aaron to offer a sacrifice of atonement.
- NUMBERS 16: 47-50** Aaron offers the sacrifice, the plague ceases, but 14,700 people are already dead; not counting the people who died from the earthquake and the fire.

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Topic: **SPIRITUAL AUTHORITY**
Lesson # 6: **“THE INSUBORDINATION OF MOSES**
SCRIPTURE LESSON: **NUMBERS 20 : 1-13**

THE KEY CHARACTERS:

Moses, God’s appointed leader
Aaron, God’s appointed High Priest

THE CENTRAL THOUGHT:

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THE KEY CHARACTERS:

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Aaron, God’s appointed High Priest

THE CENTRAL THOUGHT:

Rebellion on the part of those in authority results in harsh punishment from the Ultimate Authority, God Himself.

NUMBERS 20: 1 – 5 Fear and unbelief lead God’s people to murmur.

1. They lacked water.
2. They murmured against Moses and Aaron
3. Times of testing often reveal faithlessness and spiritual immaturity.

NUMBERS 20: 6-8 Moses and Aaron turn to God and receive His instructions and plan of action.

1. Moses is to take his staff (The Staff of God)
2. He is then to gather the people together
3. He is finally to speak to the Rock and water would flow for the people and their livestock.

NUMBERS 20: 8-12 Moses is insubordinate

1. The gravity of Moses’ offense
 - a. He disregarded God’s Sovereignty
 - (1) He distrusted God’s power and plan
 - (2) He disobeyed God’s instructions
 - (3) He refused to submit to God’s authority
 - b. He violated God’s Holiness

(1) He took credit himself for what God had done

(2) He failed to honor God before the people

c. He “lorded it” over God’s Heritage (God’s People)

(1) He lost his temper and smote the Rock

(2) He used harsh expressions in addressing God’s people
(He called them “rebels”)

(3) He ministered to them resentfully

NUMBERS 20:12, 13

God punished Moses, and Aaron and preserves His Honor

1. God expects his delegated authorities to remain submissive and faithful even when the people rebel.
2. Moses and Aaron are not allowed to lead the people of Israel into the “promised land”.
3. Leaders are judged more strictly than followers and are accountable for their words, actions and lifestyle (James 3:1; Hebrews 13: 7, 17; Luke 12: 47-48).

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Topic: **SPIRITUAL AUTHORITY**
Lesson # 7: **“THE REBELLION AT EDOM**
SCRIPTURE LESSON: NUMBERS 21: 1-9

THE KEY CHARACTERS:

Moses, God’s Appointed Leader

THE CENTRAL THOUGHT:

Rebellion always results in Divine punishment or chastening, and genuine repentance always in forgiveness and healing.

NUMBERS 21: 1-3 Israel experiences a victory at Hormah.

1. They are attacked by King Arad, some are captured.
2. They look to God for help and submit to Him.
3. God hears their cry and gives them victory.

NUMBERS 21: 4 The Israelites grow impatient along the journey.

1. The Christian life is not without its trials, hardships and tests- these have their value (1 Peter 4: 12-19; James 1 : 2-4).
2. The Israelites allowed these hardships to discourage them and forgot what God had already done.

NUMBERS 21: 5 The people rebel and speak against God and Moses.

1. They challenge god’s plan.
2. They doubt God’s power.
3. They complain about God’s provisions.

NUMBERS 21: 6 God, true to His Character, judges and punishes rebellion quickly and harshly.

1. He immediately sends poisonous snakes, which bite the people.
2. Many died.

NUMBERS 21: 7

The people repent and seek Moses's help.

1. Chastening is intended to bring about repentance (Hebrews 12: 5-11).
2. Genuine repentance seeks forgiveness and restitution from the offended party or parties.
3. Moses intercedes on behalf of the people.

NUMBERS 21: 8

God has mercy and instructs Moses as to how healing can be found.

1. Moses is to make a bronze snake, put it on a pole and lift it up before the people.
2. Those bitten were to just look up at the bronze snake and they would be healed.
3. Only God's provision can save and heal.

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Topic: **SPIRITUAL AUTHORITY**
Lesson # 8: **“TRANSFER OF AUTHORITY**
SCRIPTURE LESSON: NUMBERS 27: 12-23

THE KEY CHARACTERS:

Moses, God’s Appointed Leader
Joshua, His Successor

THE CENTRAL THOUGHT:

Leadership is ultimately God’s decision and appointment. He elevates those who have demonstrated that they can submit to delegated authority and places them in authority.

NUMBERS 27: 12-14

Moses is allowed to see the “promised land” before he dies.

1. God tells Moses to view the promised land from atop MT. Abarim.
2. God tells him that after he looks he will die like his brother Aaron.
3. God reminds him of why he cannot enter (It was his rebellion in the desert of Zin).

NUMBERS 27: 15-17

Moses respectfully requests a successor.

1. Moses loves the people to end. (John 13: 1).
2. He wants them to have a Shepherd and not just a hireling to lead them. (John 10:11-15).
3. He knows that God ultimately determines the successor, so he prays to God.

NUMBERS 27: 18 a

God chooses and appoints Joshua.

1. Joshua was a man under authority. (Exodus 24: 12,13).
2. Joshua was a man of faith, who followed God with his whole heart. (Numbers 32: 12; 14: 6-10).
3. Joshua was a man who had God’s spirit (Numbers 27:18).

NUMBERS 27: 18 b

God instructs Moses to ordain and commission Joshua.

*(Whenever God chooses someone for a work, he has someone already in authority to confirm his chose).

1. Ordination is the ceremony in which those in authority confirm those whom God has called to places of leadership.
2. Ordination always involves a transfer of authority, usually symbolized by the “laying on of Hands”.
3. Ordination must always be a public celebration that the people may obey those now in authority.
4. Ordination always involves a charge or commission from one already in authority to the one or ones being elevated to a place of authority.
 - a. The first essential element of the charge is that the leader is to look to God for his guidance and direction.
 - b. The second element of this charge is that as the leader follows God, he can then lead the people in and out.

NUMBERS 27: 22,23

Moses obeys God’s instructions and both ordains and commissions Joshua before all the people, laying hands on him and transferring his authority.

All of Israel was to follow God’s new appointed leader, Joshua.

We do not follow a leader because we like him; we follow a leader because God has placed him in that position of authority and we are under his authority and God’s authority.

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Topic: SPIRITUAL AUTHORITY
Lesson # 9: "THE REBELLION OF KING SAUL
SCRIPTURE LESSON: SAMUEL 13: 7-14; 15: 1-35

THE KEY CHARACTERS:

Samuel, God's Appointed Prophet, Priest, and Judge.
Saul, God's Appointed King (The first king of Israel)

THE CENTRAL THOUGHT:

FAILURE TO SUBMIT TO AUTHORITY ON THE PART OF THOSE IN AUTHORITY WILL RESULT IN THE LOSS OF THAT AUTHORITY.

A PROMISING BEGINNING FOR SAUL:

- | | |
|--------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 SAMUEL 9: 1,2 | Saul's Credentials |
| 1 SAMUEL 9: 15-17 | God appoints Saul as King of Israel |
| 1 SAMUEL 10: 1 | Samuel anoints Saul as King |
| 1 SAMUEL 10: 5-11 | God equips Saul for leadership |
| | 1. He gives him a new heart and character (vv. 6,9) |
| | 2. He gives him His Spirit (vv. 6,10) |
| | 3. He gives him speaking ability (vv. 6,10,11) |
| 1 SAMUEL 10: 20-27 | The humility of Saul |
| | 1. He hides during his inauguration (vv. 21-24) |
| | 2. He remained silent in the face of rebellion (v. 27) |
| 1 SAMUEL 11: 11 | Saul is successful military campaign at Jabesh. |
| 1 SAMUEL 11:12-15 | Saul is confirmed as King of Israel. |

SAUL'S FIRST ACT OF REBELLION-USURPING AUTHORITY: (1 SAMUEL 13: 7-14)

- | | |
|--------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 SAMUEL 13: 7,9 | Saul and his army prepare to fight the Philistines and wait at Gilgal for Samuel to offer the sacrifice. |
| | 1. The soldiers were trembling. |
| | 2. They waited seven days as they were commanded. |
| | 3. Samuel had not arrived and the people began to scatter. |
| | 4. Saul tired of waiting any longer offered the sacrifice. |
| 1 SAMUEL 13: 10-12 | Samuel comes and confronts Saul and Saul explains why he offered the sacrifice without authority. |
| 1 SAMUEL 13: 13,14 | Samuel rebukes Saul and reprimands him. |

1. He explains the seriousness of his offense. (He had foolishly disobeyed God's command).
2. He explained the consequences of his action.
 - a. He would lose the kingdom.
 - b. His sons and descendants will not rule as kings of Israel.
 - c. He explained to him that God was going to find a man after His own heart to lead Israel (One who would respect and submit to authority).

SAUL'S SECOND ACT OF REBELLION-UNSUBORDINATION (SAMUEL 15: 1-35)

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 SAMUEL 15: 1-3 | God's clear command: "Destroy Everything!" |
| 1 SAMUEL 15: 4-9 | Saul spares the King and the best animals. |
| 1 SAMUEL 15: 10-15 | Samuel confronts Saul. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Saul builds a monument in his own honor (v. 12) 2. Saul claims to have obeyed God (v. 13) 3. Saul does not know that God knows the truth and always tells his servant. (vv. 10,11) 4. Samuel asks him about the animals (v. 14) 5. Saul shifts the blame on his soldiers (v. 15) |
| 1 SAMUEL 15:16-19 | Samuel confronts Saul again. |
| 1 SAMUEL 15: 20-21 | Saul insists that he obeyed the Lord and that his soldiers are to blame for bringing the animals back. They did it for the Lord, so that they could offer sacrifices to Him. |
| 1 SAMUEL 15: 22, 23 a | Samuel explains what it is that God likes and hates. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. He is pleased with obedience and submission more than sacrifice and ritual. 2. He hates rebellion and stubbornness as much as He does witchcraft and idolatry. |
| 1 SAMUEL 15: 23b –31 | God rejects Saul as King, Saul's late repentance will not change God's mind. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Samuel tells Saul that his disobedience has resulted in his rejection as king. 2. Saul finally admits his sin and tells the truth. 3. Saul seeks pardon. 4. Samuel finally allows him to worship, but informs him that the kingdom has been torn from him and given to another. |
| 1 SAMUEL 15: 32,33 | Samuel kills the king that Saul spared. |
| 1 SAMUEL 15: 34,35 | Though, Samuel mourned for Saul, from that day he never saw him again. Needless to say, God was totally disappointed in Saul as King. |

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Topic: SPIRITUAL AUTHORITY

Lesson # 10: "DAVID'S KNOWLEDGE OF AND SUBMISSION TO AUTHORITY"
SCRIPTURE LESSON 1: SAMUEL 24: 4-15; 26: 7-16, 22-24; 2 SAMUEL 1: 11-16

THE KEY CHARACTERS:

Samuel, God's Appointed Prophet, Priest, and Judge.
Saul, God's Appointed King (The first king of Israel)
David, The second King of Israel

THE CENTRAL THOUGHT:

THOSE WHO LEARN TO SUBMIT TO AUTHORITY, SHOW THAT THEY ARE FIT AND PREPARED TO HANDLE BEING PUT IN POSITIONS OF AUTHORITY.

1 SAMUEL 16 GOD CHOOSES A "MAN AFTER HIS OWN HEART."

- v. 1-5 God sends Samuel to Bethlehem to anoint the new king He selects.
- vv. 6-10 Divine standards verses human standards: (God looks at the heart).
- vv. 11-12 God chooses David to be His anointed.
- v. 13 a Samuel anoints David.
- vv. 13 b, 14 God's Spirit leaves Saul and comes on David.
- vv. 15-23 A talented David serves a tormented Saul.

David's credentials: 1. Shepherd; 2. Warrior; 3. Orator; 4. Musician; 5. Poet;
6. Handsome.

David's character: 1. Bravery; 2. Obedience; 3. Reliability; 4. Willingness
to Serve; 5. Faith in God; 6. God was with him.

1 SAMUEL 17 DAVID KILLS THE GIANT, GOLIATH

1 SAMUEL 18 SAUL'S JEALOUSY OF DAVID

- v. 5 David serves Saul's faithfully and is promoted.
- vv. 6-9 Saul's jealousy of David's popularity.
- vv. 10-11 Saul's first attempt to kill David with his spear.
- v. 12 Saul's jealousy of David's relationship with God.
- vv. 13-15 Saul's jealousy of David's military success.
- vv. 16-27 Saul's attempts to use his daughters as tools for David's death.
- vv. 28-30 Saul's jealousy intensifies.

1 SAMUEL 19 SAUL TRIES TO KILL DAVID.

- vv. 1-7 Saul plots David's murder, but is convinced by his son Jonathan not to go through with it.
- vv. 8-10 Saul's second attempt to kill David with his spear.
- vv. 11-23 Saul's men pursue David, unsuccessfully.

1 SAMUEL 20 DAVID AND JONATHAN MAINTAIN THEIR FRIENDSHIP.

1 SAMUEL 21 DAVID FINDS A REFUGE AMONG THE PRIESTS OF NOD.

1 SAMUEL 22 SAUL KILLS 85 PRIESTS OF NOD FOR HELPING DAVID.

1 SAMUEL 23 SAUL CONTINUES TO PURSUE DAVID.

1 SAMUEL 24 DAVID SPARES SAUL'S LIFE.

- vv. 1-3 Saul pursues David to the desert of En Gedi.
- vv. 4-7 David spares Saul's life (He refuses to touch God's Anointed).
- vv. 8-15 David tries to convince him that he means him no harm.
- vv. 16-20 Saul recognizes David's gesture of good-will and acknowledges that he will be the next king.
- vv. 21-22 Saul makes David swear not to wipe out his family when he becomes king.

1 SAMUEL 26 DAVID SPARES SAUL'S LIFE A SECOND TIME

- vv. 1-4 Saul pursue David again.
- vv. 7-12 David spares his life again (Again, he refuses to touch God's Anointed).
- vv. 13-16 David rebukes Saul's soldiers for not protecting him adequately.
- vv. 17-20 David inquires as to what he has done and why Saul is pursuing him. He asks Saul to examine what it is that drives him to want to kill him.
- v. 21 Saul admits his error and foolishness.
- vv. 22, 24 David continues to show his knowledge of Authority.
- v. 25 Saul blesses David.

1 SAMUEL 27 DAVID DETERMINES TO AVOID SAUL, GOES TO PHILISTIA

1 SAMUEL 28 SAUL DEGENERATES TO CONSULTING WITCHES

1 SAMUEL 31 SAUL'S THREE SONS KILLED IN BATTLE AND A WOUNDED SAUL TAKES HIS OWN LIFE.

2 SAMUEL 1 EVEN IN DEATH DAVID RESPECTS AND HONORS SAUL.

- vv. 1-10 An Amalekite reports Saul's death and claims to have struck the fatal blow; brings David the crown.
- vv. 11-12 David and his men mourn.
- vv. 13-16 David rebukes and punishes him by death.
- vv. 17-27 David wrote a song of lamentation and taught it to his men as they mourned the death of Saul and Jonathan.

BIBLE STUDY
REV. DR. DARRYL B. STARNES, SR. INSTRUCTOR

Topic: SPIRITUAL AUTHORITY
Lesson # 11: SUBMISSION TO A HIGHER AUTHORITY, - PART 1
SCRIPTURE LESSON 1: DANIEL 1: 1-21

THE KEY CHARACTERS:

NEBUCHADNEZZAR, the King of Babylon

ASHPENAZ, the Chief of the King's Court

DANIEL, a Hebrew Exile, in training for the King's Court

HANANIAH, a Hebrew Exile, in training for the King's Court

MISHAEL, a Hebrew Exile, in training for the King's Court

AZARIAH, a Hebrew Exile, in training for the King's Court

THE CENTRAL THOUGHT:

WHENEVER THERE IS A CONFLICT BETWEEN A COMMAND OF A DELEGATED AUTHORITY AND THAT OF GOD, THE ULTIMATE AUTHORITY; GOD IS TO BE OBEYED AND THE DELEGATED AUTHORITY IS TO BE RESPECTFULLY DISOBEYED.

- DANIEL 1: 1-7 A punishment for idolatry, God allows Nebuchadnezzar, the King of Babylon, to capture Judah.
1. He captures Jehoiakim, the King of Judah.
 2. He transports Articles from God's Temple to the temple of his god in Babylon.
 3. He orders Ashpenaz, the chief of his court officials to bring some of the Israelites to Babylon to serve in his palace court.
 - a. Ashpenaz chooses the most promising young leaders in the Land of Judah.
 1. Those from the royal family.
 2. Those of the nobility.
 3. The strongest, most attractive, intelligent, and talented.
 - b. Ashpenaz trains them for three years.
 1. First, he gave them new names.
 2. Secondly, they were given a Babylonian education which, included language & literature.

3. He introduced them to the King's Special diet.

DANIEL 1: 8-16 Daniel and the young Hebrews refuse to defile themselves with the King's diet.

1. Daniel recognizes that the King's diet required meats and beverages that God had forbidden them.
2. Daniel resolves to obey God and not defile himself with the King's diet.
3. He respectfully asks permission from Ashpenaz not to defile himself.
4. God opens the official's heart to reason; Ashpenaz expresses his concern: the health of the trainees.
5. Daniel offers an alternative, which is in the best interest of all-concerned: A 10-Day trial period for God's Diet.
6. God's Diet proves healthier, Ashpenaz is satisfied.

DANIEL 1: 17-21

God honors the submission and obedience of Daniel and the young Hebrew leaders.

1. God gave them special knowledge and understanding and gave Daniel the special ability to understand and interpret all kinds of visions and dreams.
2. At the end of the 3-Year training the King tested all his trainees and found that the four Hebrews not only far excelled the other trainees, but, were 10 times better than any of the astrologers and enchanters in the entire kingdom.

BIBLE STUDY
REV. DR. DARRYL B. STARNES, SR. INSTRUCTOR

Topic: SPIRITUAL AUTHORITY
Lesson # 12: SUBMISSION TO A HIGHER AUTHORITY, - PART 2
SCRIPTURE LESSON 2: DANIEL 3: 1-30

THE KEY CHARACTERS:

NEBUCHADNEZZAR, the King of Babylon

SHADRACH (HANANIAH), a Jewish Exile Official in the King's Court

MESHACH (MISHAEL), a Jewish Exile Official in the King's Court

ABEDNEGO (AZARIAH), a Jewish Exile Official in the King's Court

THE CENTRAL THOUGHT:

THOSE WHO RESPECTFULLY DISOBEYED A DELEGATED AUTHORITY IN ORDER TO OBEY GOD, THE ULTIMATE AUTHORITY, WILL FIND THAT GOD WILL BE WITH THEM AS THEY BEAR THE CONSEQUENCES.

- DANIEL 3: 1-3 Nebuchadnezzar builds a golden image and requires all his officials to attend the dedication.
- DANIEL 3: 4-6 He then requires everyone in the kingdom to bow down and worship the golden image when the music plays or else die in the fiery furnace.
- DANIEL 3: 7-12 When the music plays everyone bows down and worships the golden image except the three Jewish officials.
- DANIEL 3:13-15 1. The astrologers report this to the King.
2. They inform him that some of his leaders (Jews):
 a. Paid no attention to him.
 b. Refused to serve his gods.
 c. Refused to obey his decree and worship the image.
- DANIEL 3: 16-15 A furious King tries to give them another chance.
1. In anger he summons the three Jewish officials.
 2. He questions them as to the reliability of the report.
 3. He gives them another chance to worship the image.
- DANIEL 3: 16-18 The three Jewish leaders respectfully disobeyed the King.
1. They plead guilty and offer no defense against the charges brought against them.

2. They do inform the King that their God is able to deliver them from the fiery furnace.
3. They also respectfully inform him that even if He does not deliver them from the fiery furnace, they still will not serve or worship any other God.

DANIEL 3: 19-23

An even angrier King has the young men thrown into a blazing furnace.

1. The King, even more angry, has the furnace heated seven times hotter than usual.
2. The King has his strongest men tie them up and throw them into the blazing furnace.
3. The furnace was so hot that it instantly killed the men who threw them into the furnace.

DANIEL 3: 24-27

God miraculously saves them and sends his angel to be with them in the furnace.

1. The King notices four men in the furnace, untied, unharmed, walking around and the fourth was not like an ordinary man.
2. The King summoned them to come out the furnace.
3. They come out unharmed, with not a hair singed, nor their clothes scorched and without even the smell of fire on them.

DANIEL 3: 28-30

God is glorified and the young Jewish leaders are promoted in the province of Babylon.

1. Nebuchadnezzar praises God.
2. He also admires the three young Jewish leaders for total submission to God, even unto death.
3. He makes it then a crime worthy of death for anyone to speak against their God.
4. He promotes them in the kingdom of Babylon.

BIBLE STUDY
REV. DR. DARRYL B. STARNES, SR. INSTRUCTOR

Topic: **SPIRITUAL AUTHORITY**
Lesson # 13: **THE SOVEREIGNTY OF GOD, - PART 1**
SCRIPTURE LESSON 2: **DANIEL 4: 1-37**
KEY VERSE: **PSALMS 75: 6, 7**

THE KEY CHARACTERS:

NEBUCHADNEZZAR, the King of Babylon and World Ruler.
DANIEL (BELTESSHAZZAR), Jewish Exile and Chief of the Wisemen.

THE CENTRAL THOUGHT:

GOD, IS SOVEREIGN OVER THE KINGDOM OF THE WORLD AND HE GIVES AUTHORITY TO RULE TO WHOEVER HE WISHES. HE HUMBLER THOSE WHO EXALT THEMSELVES AND EXALTS THOSE WHO HUMBLE THEMSELVES.

DANIEL 4: 1-3

Nebuchadnessar's Proclamation.

1. He addresses it to the people of the whole world.
2. He desires in it to share his testimony of what God has done in his life.
3. He acknowledges the Most High God, as sovereign.

DANIEL 4: 4-7

Nebuchadnezzar's Terrifying Dream.

1. The dream came when he was at ease and prosperous.
2. The dream terrified him.
3. None of his magicians could interpret the dream.

DANIEL 4: 8-18

Nebuchadnezzar shares his dream with Daniel.

1. Nebuchadnezzar has confidence that Daniel can properly interpret the dream.
2. The details of the dream are as follows:
 - a. He sees a gigantic tree, tall, beautiful, fruitful; a shelter for animals; a lodging place for birds; and food for many animals.
 - b. He heard a Holy messenger cry out, "Cut down the tree! Trim the branches; Strip the leaves; Scatter the fruit; only leave the stump and the roots under the ground.
 - c. He saw that the dew would drench it and it would live with the animals and plants.
 - d. He further saw that its mind would change from that of a man to that of an animal.
 - e. It would stay this way for seven years, until it acknowledged that God was Sovereign.

DANIEL 4: 19-27

Daniel reluctantly, but respectfully shares the interpretation of the dream.

1. The tree is Nebuchadnezzar and represents the beauty, strength, productivity and magnitude of his reign and kingdom.
2. The Holy messenger is proclaiming God's decree against Nebuchadnezzar:
 - a. He will be driven away from the people.
 - b. He will eat grass like a wild animal.
 - c. The dew from heaven will drench him.
 - d. This will last seven years.
 - e. Your kingdom will be restored when you acknowledge that God is sovereign.

DANIEL 4: 28-3

In just twelve months the dream becomes a reality and Daniel's interpretation is fulfilled.

1. Nebuchadnezzar, full of pride, exalts himself.
2. As his lips glorify himself, God decrees his downfall and humiliation.
3. He is driven away from his people.
4. He eats grass like a wild animal.
5. The dew from heaven drenched him as he lived outdoors.
6. His hair grew long and his nails became claws.
- 7.

DANIEL 4:34-37

After seven years he acknowledges the sovereignty of God and is restored to mental health and is given authority to rule again over his kingdom.

1. When he raised his eyes toward heaven his sanity was restored.
2. When he praised, honored and acknowledged God, his kingdom was restored.
3. He became even greater than he was before God humbled him.
4. From that time on he never failed to give God the glory and acknowledge him as the sovereign and Most High God. He proclaimed to the world that:
 - a. Everything God does is right.
 - b. All His ways are just.
 - c. He knows how to humble those who walk in pride.

BIBLE STUDY
REV. DR. DARRYL B. STARNES, SR. INSTRUCTOR

Topic: **SPIRITUAL AUTHORITY**
Lesson # 14: **THE SOVEREIGNTY OF GOD, - PART 2**
SCRIPTURE LESSON 2: **DANIEL 5: 1-31**
KEY VERSE: **PSALMS 75: 6, 7**

THE KEY CHARACTERS:

NEBUCHADNEZZAR, the King of Babylon and World Ruler.
DANIEL (BELTESSHAZZAR), Jewish Exile and Chief of the Wisemen.

THE CENTRAL THOUGHT:

GOD, IS SOVEREIGN OVER THE KINGDOM OF THE WORLD AND HE GIVES AUTHORITY TO RULE TO WHOEVER HE WISHES. HE HUMBLER THOSE WHO EXALT THEMSELVES AND EXALTS THOSE WHO HUMBLE THEMSELVES.

DANIEL 4: 1-3 Nebuchadnessar's Proclamation.

1. He addresses it to the people of the whole world.
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1. The dream came when he was at ease and prosperous.
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DANIEL 4: 8-18 Nebuchadnezzar shares his dream with Daniel.

1. Nebuchadnezzar has confidence that Daniel can properly interpret the dream.
2. The details of the dream are as follows:
 - d. He sees a gigantic tree, tall, beautiful, fruitful; a shelter for animals; a lodging place for birds; and food for many animals.
 - e. He heard a Holy messenger cry out, "Cut down the tree! Trim the branches; Strip the leaves; Scatter the fruit; only leave the stump and the roots under the ground.
 - f. He saw that the dew would drench it and it would live with the animals and plants.
 - g. He further saw that its mind would change from that of a man to that of an animal.
 - h. It would stay this way for seven years, until it acknowledged that God was Sovereign.

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DANIEL 4: 28-3

In just twelve months the dream becomes a reality and Daniel's interpretation is fulfilled.

1. Nebuchadnezzar, full of pride, exalts himself.
2. As his lips glorify himself, God decrees his downfall and humiliation.
3. He is driven away from his people.
8. He eats grass like a wild animal.
9. The dew from heaven drenched him as he lived outdoors.
10. His hair grew long and his nails became claws.
- 11.

DANIEL 4:34-37

After seven years he acknowledges the sovereignty of God and is restored to mental health and is given authority to rule again over his kingdom.

1. When he raised his eyes toward heaven his sanity was restored.
2. When he praised, honored and acknowledged God, his kingdom was restored.
3. He became even greater than he was before God humbled him.
5. From that time on he never failed to give God the glory and acknowledge him as the sovereign and Most High God. He proclaimed to the world that:
 - a. Everything God does is right.
 - b. All His ways are just.
 - c. He knows how to humble those who walk in pride.

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Topic: **SPIRITUAL AUTHORITY**
Lesson # 14: **THE SOVEREIGNTY OF GOD, - PART 2**
SCRIPTURE LESSON 2: **DANIEL 5: 1-31**
KEY VERSE: **PSALMS 75: 6, 7**

THE KEY CHARACTERS:

NEBUCHADNEZZAR, the King of Babylon and World Ruler.
DANIEL (BELTESSHAZZAR), Jewish Exile and Chief of the Wisemen.

THE CENTRAL THOUGHT:

GOD, IS SOVEREIGN OVER THE KINGDOM OF THE WORLD AND HE GIVES AUTHORITY TO RULE TO WHOEVER HE WISHES. HE HUMBLER THOSE WHO EXALT THEMSELVES AND EXALTS THOSE WHO HUMBLE THEMSELVES.

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- DANIEL 4: 4-7** Nebuchadnezzar's Terrifying Dream.
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 - f. He saw that the dew would drench it and it would live with the animals and plants.
 - g. He further saw that its mind would change from that of a man to that of an animal.
 - h. It would stay this way for seven years, until it acknowledged that God was Sovereign.
- DANIEL 4: 19-27** Daniel reluctantly, but respectfully shares the interpretation of the dream.
- DANIEL 4: 28-3** In just twelve months the dream becomes a reality and Daniel's interpretation is fulfilled.
1. Nebuchadnezzar, full of pride, exalts himself.
 2. As his lips glorify himself, god decrees his downfall and humiliation.
 3. He is driven away from his people.
 12. He eats grass like a wild animal.

13. The dew from heaven drenched him as he lived outdoors.
14. His hair grew long and his nails became claws.
- 15.

DANIEL 4:34-37

After seven years he acknowledges the sovereignty of God and is restored to mental health and is given authority to rule again over his kingdom.

1. When he raised his eyes toward heaven his sanity was restored.
2. When he praised, honored and acknowledged God, his kingdom was restored.
3. He became even greater than he was before God humbled him.
6. From that time on he never failed to give God the glory and acknowledge him as the sovereign and Most High God. He proclaimed to the world that:
 - a. Everything God does is right.
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Topic: **SPIRITUAL AUTHORITY**
Lesson # 14: **THE SOVEREIGNTY OF GOD, - PART 2**
SCRIPTURE LESSON 2: **DANIEL 5: 1-31**
KEY VERSE: **PSALMS 75: 6, 7**

THE KEY CHARACTERS:

BELSHAZZAR'S, son of Nebuchadnezzar and king of Babylon.
DANIEL (BELTESSHAZZAR), Jewish Exile and Chief of the Wisemen.

THE CENTRAL THOUGHT:

GOD, IS SOVEREIGN OVER THE KINGDOM OF THE WORLD AND HE GIVES AUTHORITY TO RULE TO WHOEVER HE WISHES. HE BRINGS DOWN THOSE WHO REFUSE TO HUMBLE THEMSELVES AND RECOGNIZE HIM AND REPLACES THEM WITH OTHERS.

DANIEL 5: 1-4

Belshazzar;s arrogance and idolatry.

1. He hosts a great banquet for his nobles.
2. He uses the sacred vessels taken from the Temple in Jerusalem.
3. He and his nobles worship false gods.

DANIEL 5: 5, 6

The Handwriting on the Wall.

1. A Hand suddenly appeared and began writing on the plaster of the wall.
2. The king is terrified.

DANIEL 5: 9-9

The king's wisemen can not interpret the writing.

1. The king summons his wisemen and promises gifts and promotion to whoever can interpret the writing.
2. None of hos wisemen can interpret the writing.
3. The king becomes even more terrified, his nobles are baffled.

DANIEL 5: 10-12

The Queen tells the King about Daniel

DANIEL 5: 13-16

The King summons Daniel and promises him gifts and promotion if he can interpret the writing.

DANIEL 5: 17

Daniel consents to interpret the writing, but does not want the reward.

DANIEL 5: 18-24

Daniel's preface to the interpretation of the writing.

1. Belshazzar, it was God who made your father great.
2. But when he became arrogant, God stripped him from his throne and allowed him to live like an animal.
3. Then after he humbled himself and acknowledged God as sovereign, God restored his mind and his kingdom.

4. You, however, knowing what happened to your father, still refuse to humble yourself:
 - a. You used the sacred vessels from God's temple.
 - b. You worshipped false gods, which cannot see, hear or understand.
 - c. You never acknowledged the true God, who holds your whole life in His hands.

DANIEL 5: 25-28

Daniel's interpretation of the writing.

MENE, MENE, TEKEL, UPHARSIN

1. Mene: God has numbered the days of your reign and brought it to an end.
2. Tekel: You have been weighed on the scales and found wanting.
3. Perel (the singular for parsin); Your kingdom is divided and given to the Medes and Persians.

DANIEL 5: 29

Belshazzar rewards Daniel for interpreting the writing:

1. He receives royal clothing.
2. He receives golden jewelry.
3. He is promoted to third highest ruler in the kingdom.

DANIEL 5: 30, 31

That very night, Daniel's words come true.

1. The King, Belshazzar is killed.
3. Darius, the Mede takes over the kingdom.

BIBLE STUDY
REV. DR. DARRYL B. STARNES, SR. INSTRUCTOR

Topic: **SPIRITUAL AUTHORITY**
Lesson # 15: **SUBMISSION TO A HIGHER AUTHORITY, PART 3**
SCRIPTURE LESSON 2: DANIEL 6: 1-28
KEY VERSE: DANIEL 6: 22

THE KEY CHARACTERS:

DARIUS, king of the Mede and Persians Kingdom.
DANIEL (BELTESSHAZZAR), A Top Administrator of the Kingdom.

THE CENTRAL THOUGHT:

THOSE WHO RESPECTFULLY DISOBEY A DELEGATED AUTHORITY IN ORDER TO OBEY GOD, THE ULTIMATE AUTHORITY, WILL FIND THAT GOD WILL BE WITH THEM AS THEY BEAR THE CONSEQUENCES. WHEN GOD HAS SOMETHING FOR YOU, YOUR ENEMIES CANNOT KEEP YOU FROM RECEIVING IT.

- DANIEL 6: 1-2 Darius organizes his kingdom.
1. He appoints 120 governors to rule throughout the kingdom.
 2. He appointed 3 top administrators to whom the governors were accountable, one of which was Daniel.
- DANIEL 6: 3 Because Daniel excelled so greatly, the king planned to put Daniel over the whole kingdom.
- DANIEL 6: 4-9 The other administrators and governors devised a plot to have Daniel removed.
1. First, they unsuccessfully sought to find grounds for charges against Daniel (misconduct, corruption, or negligence).
 2. When no charges could be found, they decided to use his loyalty to his as a means for removal.
 3. They tricked the king into writing a decree forbidding anyone to pray to any man or God except the king for 30 days or else be thrown into the lion's den.
- DANIEL 6: 10-13 Daniel continues his custom of praying to God in spite to the decree and is reported by his enemies.
1. Daniel continues to pray to God 3 times a day.
 2. The conspirators spy on him and report it to the king.

DANIEL 6: 14-18

The king unable to rescue Daniel, reluctantly orders him to be thrown into the Lion's den.

1. The king tried all day to find a way to save Daniel.
2. Trapped by his own decree, he ordered the execution and hoped that Daniel's God could deliver him.
3. He put a stone over the lion's den and returned to his palace.
4. He refused food, entertainment and sleep.

DANIEL 6: 19-24

God delivers Daniel and punishes his enemies.

1. The king rises early and hurries to the lion's den to see if God has delivered Daniel.
2. Daniel, very much alive:
 - a. Respectfully addresses the king.
 - b. Give God credit for his deliverance.
 - c. Assures the king that he did not rebel against him.
3. The king overjoyed has Daniel lifted out of the den and finds that he has no wounds at all.
5. The king then has the conspirators and their families thrown into the lion's den, where they were quickly devoured.

DANIEL 6: 25-27

The king writes a new decree.

1. One which fosters reverence for the God of Daniel.
2. One which gives God praise and glory.
4. One that recognizes him as the only true God.

DANIEL 6: 28

Daniel continues to prosper under the reign of Darius and under his successor, Cyrus.

BIBLE STUDY
REV. DR. DARRYL B. STARNES, SR. INSTRUCTOR

Topic: **SPIRITUAL AUTHORITY**
Lesson # 16: **SUBMITTING TO AUTHORITY IN THE SECULAR WORLD**

CENTRAL THOUGHT:

GOD IS THE SOURCE OF ALL AUTHORITIES IN THE UNIVERSE AND ALL GOVERNING AUTHORITIES ARE INSTITUTED BY HIM. CHRISTIANS ARE TO ALWAYS RESPECT AND USUALLY OBEY THOSE IN AUTHORITY IN THE WORLD.

SUBMITTING TO THE AUTHORITY OF GOVERNMENT

- I. Romans 13: 1-17
 - A. **Submit**
 - 1. Because they are God's servants.
 - 2. Because to rebel against them is to rebel against God.
 - 3. Because rebellion will result in punishment.
 - 4. For conscience sake.
 - B. **Obey**
 - 1. Those who do right need not fear those in authority.
 - 2. Wrongdoers can expect punishment.
 - C. **Support**
 - 1. By paying taxes.
 - 2. By sharing revenues.
- II. I Peter 2:13-17
 - A. Submit for the Lord's sake.
 - B. Understand the purpose of government.
 - 1. To punishment evildoers.
 - 2. To commend those who do right.
 - C. Obedience – Do good and silence the talk of the foolish.
 - D. Don't abuse your liberty.
 - E. Serve and fear God.
 - F. Honor governmental leaders.

SUBMITTING TO THE AUTHORITY IN THE WORKPLACE

- I. Ephesus 6: 5-9; Colossians 3: 22-25
 - A. **Obey your employer.**
 - 1. Not just to win his/her favor.
 - 2. Not with eyeservice.
 - 3. Sincerely, from the heart.
 - 4. As unto the Lord and because of your reverence for God.

B. Submit (Respect your employer).

C. Serve your employer.

1. Wholeheartedly.
2. As unto the Lord.
3. Looking to Christ to reward you for good.
4. Looking to Christ to punish you for wrong.
5. Remembering that God has no favorites.

II. I Timothy 6: 1, 2

A. Submit so that God's name will not be blasphemed.

B. Don't take advantage of Christian employers, serve them better.

III. Titus 2: 9, 10

A. Submission is absolute.

1. Cooperate
2. Don't talk back.
3. Don't steal from your employer.

B. Submission makes God's word attractive.

IV. I Peter 2: 18-20

A. Submit to all employers (good or bad).

B. It is commendable to endure abuse and injustice because you are conscious of God.

BIBLE STUDY
REV. DR. DARRYL B. STARNES, SR. INSTRUCTOR

Topic: SPIRITUAL AUTHORITY
Lesson # 17: AUTHORITY IN THE CHURCH & THE HOME

CENTRAL THOUGHT:

GOD IS THE SOURCE OF ALL AUTHORITY. HE HAS PLACED THOSE IN AUTHORITY IN THE CHURCH AND IN THE HOME. THOSE IN AUTHORITY ARE THERE TO SERVE LOVE THOSE UNDER THEIR AUTHORITY, WHILE THOSE UNDER AUTHORITY ARE TO SUBMIT AND RESPECT THEM.

AUTHORITY IN THE CHURCH

THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THOSE IN AUTHORITY IN THE CHURCH:

Pastors and church leaders are to love and serve the members by:

1. Speaking God's Word to them (preaching, teaching, admonishing)
(Hebrews 13: 7a; 1 Peter 5: 2a; 1 Thessalonians 5: 12a)
2. Shepherding the flock (caring, overseeing, pastoring)
(Hebrews 13: 17; 1 Peter 5: 2)
3. Leading the sheep (Example, faith and life)
(Hebrews 13: 7; 1 Peter 5: 3)

THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THOSE UNDER AUTHORITY:

Members are to submit to, obey and appreciate their leaders.

1. Submit means to have the right attitude at all times (Absolute).
(1 Thessalonians 5: 12, 13; Hebrews 13: 17)
2. Follow their leadership (Hebrews 13: 7).
3. Appreciate their work and ministry (1 Thessalonians 5: 12,13; 1 Titus 5: 17,18).

AUTHORITY IN THE HOME:

THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE HUSBANDS

Husbands are to love and serve their wives and families.

1. He is to love his wife as Christ loved the church (Ephesians 5: 25-33).
 - a. Sacrificially
 - b. Unselfishly
 - c. As he loves his own body (feeding & caring)
 - d. Secondly only to God
2. He is not to treat her harshly (Colossians 3:18).
3. He is to meet her needs (1 Peter 3: 7).
 - a. By being considerate of her needs.
 - b. By respecting her differences.
 - c. By appreciating her strengths and abilities.

THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE WIVES

Wives are to submit to their husbands.

1. She is to submit to her husband as the church submits to Christ. (Ephesians 5: 22-24).
 - a. Submission is absolute (in everything)
 - b. It is fitting in the Lord. (Colossians 3: 18)
 - c. That the Word of God be not blasphemed. (Titus 2: 4, 5)
 - d. It may result in the conversion of an unsaved husband (1 Peter 3: 1)
 - e. It is of great worth in God's sight. (1 Peter 3: 2-4)
 - f. It follows the example of the godly women of old. 1 Peter 3: 5, 6)

2. She is to obey her husband. (1 Peter 3: 6)
 - a. Obedience is relative (unless he tries to get her to do something that God, the Ultimate Authority, has forbidden).
 - b. Submission requires the right attitudes; obedience requires right actions. (1 Peter 3: 16)

* Failure on the part of the husband or the wife to fulfill these responsibilities can result in hindered prayers. (1 Peter 3: 7)

THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE CHILDREN (Exodus 21: 15-17) (Deut. 21: 18) (Lev. 18: 7, 19: 3)

Children are to submit to and obey their parents. (Submission is absolute and obedience is relative).
PROVERBS 15: 5

1. They are to obey and submit because it is right. (Ephesians 6: 1)
2. They are to obey and submit because it pleases the Lord (Colossians (3: 20)
3. They are to obey and submit because it honors their parents as God commanded. (Ephesians 6: 2)
4. God makes two promises to children who do so: (Ephesians 6: 3)
 - a. You will enjoy long-life on the earth!
 - b. It will go well with you!

THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PARENTS

Parents are to bring up their children in the training and instruction of the Lord.

1. They are not to provoke them to anger (because anger to build up in their hearts).
 - a. By providing acceptance and giving them security.
 - b. By giving appreciation and building up their sense of significance.
 - c. By being available and building up their feelings of self-worth.
 - d. By showing affection and nurturing their sense of lovability.
 - e. By establishing accountability and developing their sense of responsibility.
2. To expose them to God's principles.
 - a. By precept
 - b. By example
 - c. By loving discipline (PROVERB 13: 24; 22: 15; 23: 13, 14)

