

Doctrine of Authority

1. Definition and Concept

1.1 Authority is the legal power delegated by God.

1.2 People are by definition subordinated to other people for the proper functioning of establishment.

1.3 Authority is ordained of God both in the spiritual as well as the secular realm.

1.4 God has established an organization chart. For example

1.4.1 Father over Jesus and the Holy Spirit

1.4.2 Jesus over all things

1.4.3 Husband over the wife

1.4.4 Parents over children

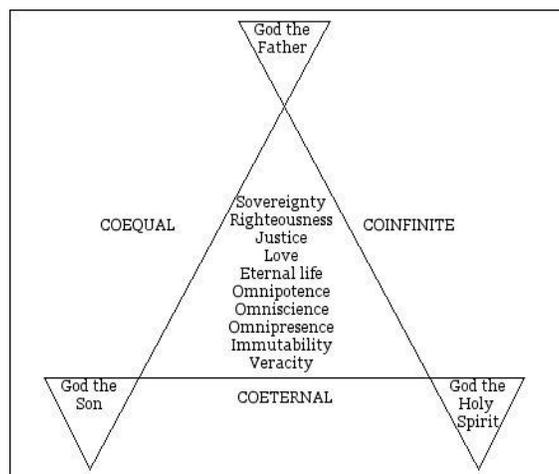
1.4.5 Bosses over employees

1.4.6 Government leaders over citizens

1.4.7 Teachers over students

2. The principle of authority and its value is established early in the Scriptures.

2.1 A coequal Jesus and Holy Spirit agreed to get under the authority of the Father.



2.2 Christ agreed to execute a plan of propitiation and reconciliation and the Holy Spirit agreed to reveal the plan.

Isa 48:16 "Come near me and listen to this: "From the first announcement I have not spoken in secret; at the time it happens, I am there." And now the Sovereign LORD has sent me, with his Spirit.

Isa 48:17 This is what the LORD says--your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel: "I am the LORD your God, who teaches you what is best for you, who directs you in the way you should go.

Joh 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

Joh 1:2 The same was in the beginning with God.

Joh 1:3 All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made ...

Joh 1:14 And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

Joh 14:26 But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.

Joh 16:13 But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come.

2.3 The principle of authority is related to the fall in the garden.

2.3.1 The woman failed by refusing the authority of the Word and then the authority of her husband and was thus mentally seduced.

Gen 3:1 Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden'?"

Gen 3:2 The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden,

Gen 3:3 but God did say, 'You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.'"

Gen 3:4 "You will not surely die," the serpent said to the woman.

Gen 3:5 "For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."

Gen 3:6 When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it.

1Ti 2:11 A woman should learn in quietness and full submission.

1Ti 2:12 I do not permit a woman to teach or to have authority over a man; she must be silent.

1Ti 2:13 For Adam was formed first, then Eve.

1Ti 2:14 And Adam was not the one deceived; it was the woman who was deceived and became a sinner.

2.3.2 Eve failed by not receiving the Word of God as taught in the Garden but she also refused the authority of her husband by not calling him when the snake first began to speak.

Eph 5:22 Wives, submit to your husbands as to the Lord.

2.3.3 The sin of the man was a rejection of the authority of the Word by pure choice and not deception.

1Ti 2:14 And Adam was not the one deceived; it was the woman who was deceived and became a sinner.

3. God has established authorities to permit the proper functioning of His plan in the devil's world:

3.1 The Word of God

2Ti 3:16 All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness,

2Ti 3:17 so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

Deu 11:26 See, I am setting before you today a blessing and a curse--

Deu 11:27 the blessing if you obey the commands of the LORD your God that I am giving you today;

Deu 11:28 the curse if you disobey the commands of the LORD your God and turn from the way that I command you today by following other gods, which you have not known.

1Sa 15:22 But Samuel replied: "Does the LORD delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices as much as in obeying the voice of the LORD? To obey is better than sacrifice, and to heed is better than the fat of rams.

Col 3:16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God.

Pro 28:9 If anyone turns a deaf ear to the law, even his prayers are detestable.

Heb 4:12 For the word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.

Phi 2:5 Your thinking should be the same as that of Christ Jesus so let His mind be in you.

1Co 2:16 For who has known the mind of the Lord that he may instruct him?" But we have the mind of Christ.

3.2 The pastor-teacher in the local church

Isa 54:17 No weapon forged against you will prevail, and you will refute every tongue that accuses you. This is the heritage of the servants of the LORD, and this is their vindication from me," declares the LORD.

Heb 10:25 Let us not forsake the assembling of ourselves together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another--and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

Heb 13:7 Remember your leaders, who spoke the word of God to you. Consider the outcome of their way of life and imitate their faith.

Heb 13:17 Obey your leaders and submit to their authority. They keep watch over you as men who must give an account. Obey them so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no advantage to you.

1Pe 5:5

Expanded Translation

In the same way you novices in Scripture place yourselves under orders of your pastor. Yes every believer must submit to his or her right pastor-teacher and metabolize the teachings of your God appointed instructor; it must be done with humility for God places Himself in battle array over against the arrogant unteachable types. In contrast He keeps on providing grace benefits to those who desire the Word of God.

1Th 5:12 Now we ask you, brothers, to respect those who work hard among you, who are over you in the Lord and who admonish you.

1Th 5:13 Hold them in the highest regard in love because of their work. Live in peace with each other.

3.3 In addition to the Word and a pastor-teacher He has also established the four divine institutions: volition, marriage, family and nationalism.

3.3.1 Volition

Joh 1:12 Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God--

Joh 3:16 "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

Joh 3:18 Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because he has not believed in the name of God's one and only Son.

Act 16:31 They replied, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved--you and your household." Ī

Eph 2:8 For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith--and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God--

Eph 2:9 not by works, so that no one can boast.

3.3.2 Marriage

Psa 128:3 Your wife will be like a fruitful vine within your house; your sons will be like olive shoots around your table.

Psa 128:4 Thus is the man blessed who fears the LORD.

Eph 5:23 For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body.

Eph 5:24 Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything.

Eph 5:25 Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;

Eph 5:31 "For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh."

Col 3:18 Wives, submit to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord.

1Pe 3:5 For this is the way the holy women of the past who put their hope in God used to make themselves beautiful. They were submissive to their own husbands,

1Pe 3:6 like Sarah, who obeyed Abraham and called him her master. You are her daughters if you do what is right and do not give way to fear.

Heb 13:4 Marriage should be honored by all, and the marriage bed kept pure, for God will judge the adulterer and all the sexually immoral.

3.3.3 Family

Deu 6:6 These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts.

Deu 6:7 Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.

Exo 20:12 "Honor your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the land the LORD your God is giving you.

1Ti 5:4 But if a widow has children or grandchildren, these should learn first of all to put their religion into practice by caring for their own family and so repaying their parents and grandparents, for this is pleasing to God.

1Ti 5:8 If anyone does not provide for his relatives, and especially for his immediate family, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.

3.3.4 Nationalism

Gen 10:5 By these were the borders of the nations divided in their lands; everyone after his tongue after families in their nations.

Gen 11:5 But the LORD came down to see the city and the tower that the men were building.

Gen 11:6 The LORD said, "If as one people speaking the same language they have begun to do this, then nothing they plan to do will be impossible for them.

Gen 11:7 Come, let us go down and confuse their language so they will not understand each other."

Isa 14:12 How you have fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the dawn! You have been cast down to the earth, you who weakened the nations!

Col 1:16 For by him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by him and for him.

Deu 32:8 When the Most High gave the nations their inheritance, when he divided all mankind, he set up boundaries for the peoples according to the number of the sons of Israel.

Acts 17:26 And hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth, and hath determined the times before appointed, and the bounds of their habitation;

Acts 17:27 That they should seek the Lord, if haply they might feel after him, and find him, though he be not far from every one of us:

3.4 Believers must submit to governmental authority.

Tit 3:1 Remind the people to be subject to rulers and authorities, to be obedient, to be ready to do whatever is good,

1Pe 2:13 Submit yourselves for the Lord's sake to every authority instituted among men: whether to the king, as the supreme authority,

1Pe 2:14 or to governors, who are sent by him to punish those who do wrong and to commend those who do right.

Rom 13:2 Consequently, he who rebels against the authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and those who do so will bring judgment on themselves.

Rom 13:3 For rulers hold no terror for those who do right, but for those who do wrong. Do you want to be free from fear of the one in authority? Then do what is right and he will commend you.

Rom 13:4 For he is God's servant to do you good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword for nothing. He is God's servant, an agent of wrath to bring punishment on the wrongdoer.

3.5 Employees must submit to the authority of their employers.

1Pe 2:18 Slaves, submit yourselves to your masters with all respect, not only to those who are good and considerate, but also to those who are harsh.

Col 3:22 Slaves, obey your earthly masters in everything; and do it, not only when their eye is on you and to win their favor, but with sincerity of heart and reverence for the Lord.

Col 3:23 Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men,

3.6 Children must submit to their parents.

Eph 6:1 Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right.

Eph 6:2 "Honor your father and mother"--which is the first commandment with a promise--

4. Both fallen and elect angels are under the authority of Jesus Christ.

Mar 1:27 The people were all so amazed that they asked each other, "What is this? A new teaching--and with authority! He even gives orders to evil spirits and they obey him."

1Pe 3:22 who has gone into heaven and is at God's right hand--with angels, authorities and powers in submission to him.

Heb 2:7 You made him a little lower than the angels; you crowned him with glory and honor

Heb 2:8 and put everything under his feet." In putting everything under him, God left nothing that is not subject to him. Yet at present we do not see everything subject to him.

Heb 2:9 But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels, now crowned with glory and honor because he suffered death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.

5. The elements and all creation are under the authority of God the Son.

Mat 8:27 The men were amazed and asked, "What kind of man is this? Even the winds and the waves obey him!"

Rom 8:18 I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us.

Rom 8:19 The creation waits in eager expectation for the sons of God to be revealed.

Rom 8:20 For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope

Rom 8:21 that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the glorious freedom of the children of God.

Rom 8:22 We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time.

