

SCRIPTURE READING: Jeremiah 5:30-31.

INTRODUCTION:

1. **What is authority?**

- A. "The power of rule or government (the power of him whose will must be submitted to by others and obeyed)" (Thayer).
- B. Illustration: Numbers 27:18-20.

2. **Who has authority?**

- A. **God the Father has all authority.** Jude 24-25.
- B. **God the Father has given all authority to God the Son.** John 5:24-29; 17:1-2. See also Ephesians 1:18-23; Colossians 2:10B; 1 Peter 3:21B-22.
- C. **Jesus has given certain human beings authority for certain purposes.**
 - 1) John 19:10-11A; Romans 13:1; Colossians 1:15-16.
 - 2) The apostles (1 Thessalonians 2:6); husbands; parents; elders; civil governors (1 Peter 2:13-17).
- D. **Jesus has not given certain human beings authority for certain purposes.** Luke 22:24-27; 1 Corinthians 7:1-5; 1 Timothy 2:12.

3. In this morning's lesson, I want to talk about some very important "we musts" of authority.

DISCUSSION: *We must ...*

- 1. **Understand the purpose of authority.** 2 Corinthians 10:8; 13:10; Romans 13:3-4.
- 2. **Respect authority.** Ecclesiastes 8:4; Luke 12:4-5; Romans 13:1-2; Jude 8; 2 Peter 2:9-10.
- 3. **Submit to authority.** Genesis 16:9; Luke 7:8; Matthew 28:18-20; Titus 3:1.
- 4. **Have authorization.**
 - A. Genesis 41:35; Colossians 3:17; Jeremiah 5:30-31.
 - B. The source: 2 Timothy 3:16-17; 2 Peter 1:2-3, 19-21; Galatians 1:6-9; 2 John 1:9.
- 5. **Prove authorization.**
 - A. John 2:18-22; Luke 5:24-25.
 - B. The means:
 - 1) Commands. Matthew 28:18-20.
 - 2) Approved examples. John 13:13-15; 1 Corinthians 11:1.
 - 3) Necessary inferences. Matthew 22:23-33. Illustration: Hebrews 10:24-25.
 - C. God's authorized means produce the best possible ends.
- 6. **Pray for all who are in authority.** 1 Timothy 2:1-4.
- 7. **Exercise delegated authority.** Husbands, parents, elders.