



All around us are rules and standards? Who decides what is right? Do we? Does the church? This takes us to a study of "Authority."

1. Who has that authority?

- The Jews understood how important that was. In Matthew 21:23 they asked Jesus two questions:
 - _____ what authority are you doing these things
 - _____ gave you that authority

Authority is the power or _____ to enforce obedience; the right to command, or give an ultimate decision.

2. Jesus asked these Jews a question. John's baptism was either from H_____ or from M_____. That is the two sources of authority (Matthew 21:24-26).

- The number one difference between ALL churches is Bible _____

A. All Authority _____ in God (Rom 13:1)

- this is because He is the _____ (Acts 17:24)
- this is because He upholds and _____ life (Acts 17:28)
- this is because of His _____ (James 4:12; Luke 12:5)

1. God _____ all authority to Jesus (Mt 28:18; Eph 1:20-23)
2. Jesus gave limited authority to the a _____ (Mt 16:19; Jn 13:20)
3. Authority rests in God's W _____ (1 Cor 14:37; Eph 2:20; Acts 2:42; Gal 1:6-9; 2 Pet 1:3)

Jesus Has Absolute Authority

He _____ it (Mt 28:18; Jn 14:6)

He _____ it

- over d _____ (Mt 9:35)
- over d _____ (Jn 11:38-44)
- over d _____ (Mk 5:1-13)
- over the d _____ (1 Jn 3:8)

His Father s _____ it (Mt 17:5)

His position demands it (Acts 2:33, 36)

His apostles taught it (Col 3:17)

- ▶ A thing is neither right or wrong because of the _____ of people who support it or oppose it
- ▶ A thing is neither right or wrong because we have _____ done it or we have _____ done it before
- ▶ A thing is neither right or wrong because of the _____ that comes from it
- ▶ A thing is neither right or wrong because we _____ it or d _____ it
- ▶ A thing is right or wrong because of what _____ says

For Class & Family Discussion:

- Why were the Jews afraid to answer Jesus' question about John's baptism—from Heaven or from men?
 - If it was from Heaven, then what?
 - If it was from men, then what?
- In 1545 the Council of Trent affirmed that the Apocryphal books were inspired and that the oral traditions of the church were binding. What comes to your mind when you hear such statements?
- What words describe someone doing something without permission (Mt 7:21-23)?
- Why are parents in charge in the home?
- In Judges 21:25 it says that everyone did what was right in his own eyes. Why is that not a good idea?
- Ultimately, who determines what is right or what is wrong?