

## RELIGIOUS AUTHORITY 194

TEXT: Lk. 20:1-2.

### INTRODUCTION:

- A. Authority is a big thing.
- B. If a State police man pulls up behind you and turns on his blue lights you will pull your car over, WHY?-He has authority.
- C. If you want to know the answer to an important question:
  - 1. About law-lawyer, judge or policeman.
  - 2. About medicine-Doctor or druggist.
- D. But where would you go to find out about a religious question?
  - 1. The preacher?
  - 2. The Elders?
- E. Let's study this matter of religious authority.

### BODY:

#### I. JESUS CHRIST HAS ALL AUTHORITY IN MATTERS OF RELIGION.

A. Matt. 7:28-29-men realized this from the beginning. And so it was, when Jesus had ended these sayings, that the people were astonished at His teaching, for He taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes.

B. Matt. 17:1-5 God spoke from heaven. "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. Hear Him!"

C. Acts 3:22-23 Jesus is the prophet we listen to today.

D. Jesus has supreme authority over the church.

1. Eph. 1:22-23 And He put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to the church,

2. Col. 1:18

E. At one time God used prophets in various ways, but now He speaks through His son- Heb. 1:1-4.

F. Jesus himself says that He has all authority- Matt. 28:18-20.

## II. JESUS PLACED THAT AUTHORITY IN THE WORDS HE SPOKE.

A. Jn. 12:48- His word will judge us.

B. What we will not be judged by:

1. What we think- Isa. 55:8-9 "For my thoughts are not. . ." Moon is 240,000 miles from earth. Earth 93 million from sun.
2. What seems right- Prov. 14:12 "There is a way that.."
2. Our hearts or feelings- "Prov. 28:26 "He that trusteth in his own heart is a fool: but whoso walketh wisely he shall be delivered."
4. What the preacher says, Priest, Pastor, etc. 1 Cor.4:6 ... learn in us not to think beyond what is written...
5. Creed, prayer books, manuals, etc.

a. If more than Bible they are wrong (adding too).

(1). 2 Jn. 9 Whoever transgresses and does not abide in the doctrine of Christ does not have God...

(2). Rev. 22:18.

b. If less they are wrong (taking way). Rev. 22:19.

c. If the same we don't need them.

## III. JESUS GAVE THAT ALL AUTHORITATIVE WORD TO HIS DISCIPLES BY TWO METHODS.

A. He taught them while on earth.

1. Jn. 17:8

2. Jn. 17:14.

B. After he left earth He sent the Holy Spirit.

1. Jn. 14:25-26.

2. Jn. 16:13.

#### IV. THAT ALL AUTHORITATIVE WORD IS ALL WE NEED.

- A. Jn. 12:48- it will judge us.
- B. Jn. 20:30-31- Enough miracles have been performed and recorded to produce faith.
- C. 2 Pet. 1:3- He has given us all we need. As His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue/
- D. 2 Tim. 3:16-17 The Scriptures will make us complete.
- E. Jude 3- The faith has been delivered.

#### V. GOD DEMANDS THAT WE RESPECT HIS WORD.

- A. We must, when speaking of religion, speak from the word of God- 1 Pet. 4:11. If anyone speaks, let him speak as the oracles of God.
- B. We must not listen to men if their teaching goes beyond God's word- 1 Cor. 4:6
- C. There is no other saving Gospel- Gal. 1:6-9.
  - 1. No additions.
  - 2. No subtractions.
- D. God demands that all people respect His word.
  - 1. Jesus.
    - a. Jn. 6:38.
    - b. Jn. 8:28.
    - c. Jn. 12:48-50.
  - 2. Holy Spirit- Jn. 16:13.
  - 3. Apostles- Gal. 1:8.
  - 4. Angels- Gal. 1:8.
  - 5. Anyone- Gal. 1:9.

## CONCLUSION:

- A. Jesus Christ has all authority in religion.
- B. He placed that authority in His words.
- C. Jesus placed that authority of his words in his disciples.

- 1. By teaching.
- 2. By the Holy Spirit.

- D. That word is all we need.
- E. God demands that we respect it.
- F. Obey His word today.

- 1. Believe- Jn. 3:16.
- 2. Repent- Acts 17:30-31.
- 3. Confess- Matt. 10:32-33.
- 4. Be baptized- Mk. 16:16.