

All In for God's Authority

(Matthew 28:18)

This issue of submitting to God's authority has been problematic for many people for centuries. Pharaoh had a problem with this (Exodus 5:2). So did many of the religious leaders in the time of Jesus (Matthew 21:23). What about you?

The issue of God's authority is at the core of many of the problems that we have in the world today. It is at the core of both moral and religious controversies. Since this topic is so pervasive, we need to spend some time considering what the Bible says about it.

I. The proclamation of God's authority

A. Proclaimed in the Psalms (Psalm 22:28; 47:2, 7-8; 115:3; 135:6; 145:13)

B. Proclaimed by Jesus

1. It was among the last things that He discussed with His apostles (Matthew 28:18).
2. In Matthew 6:33, the word "kingdom" is used to talk about seeking first God's authority and right to rule in your life.

C. Proclaimed by Philip

1. Philip preached the kingdom of God (rule of God). See Acts 8:12.
2. Philip also preached the name of Jesus Christ. This means he preached the authority of Jesus.

II. The limits of God's authority

A. There are no limits! See Psalm 47:2; Revelation 17:14; Daniel 4:17.

1. God has all authority in society (Matthew 28:18; John 12:48)!
2. God has all authority in religion (Colossians 3:17)!
3. God has all authority in the home (Ephesians 6:4)!
4. God has all authority over you (Genesis 1:1, 26-27)!

B. How are you doing when it comes to this?

III. The tests of submission to God's authority

A. A willingness to submit to those that God has given authority.

1. Government (Romans 13:1-4)
2. Parents (Ephesians 6:1-3)
3. Bosses on the job (Colossians 3:22-24)
4. Elders in the local church (Hebrews 13:7)

B. A willingness to give God the ultimate say in everyday decisions.

1. In how you dress (1 Timothy 2:9)
2. In how you treat others (Matthew 7:12)
3. In how you handle temptations (Genesis 39:9)

Conclusion: Submitting to the authority of Jesus...

- Is critical to loving Him (John 14:15).
- Is critical to trusting - Him (Proverbs 3:5-6)
- Is critical to being all in for him (Luke 6:46).