

Spiritual Authority

ATS Teaching

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Spiritual Authority is a matter of Faith

Matt 8:5-10 When he had entered Capernaum, a centurion came forward to him, appealing to him, 6 "Lord, my servant is lying paralyzed at home, suffering terribly." 7 And he said to him, "I will come and heal him." 8 But the centurion replied, "Lord, I am not worthy to have you come under my roof, but only say the word, and my servant will be healed. 9 For I too am a man under authority, with soldiers under me. And I say to one, 'Go,' and he goes, and to another, 'Come,' and he comes, and to my servant, 'Do this,' and he does it." **10 When Jesus heard this, he marveled and said to those who followed him, "Truly, I tell you, with no one in Israel have I found such faith.**

God's (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit) Authority

Psalm 47:8 **God reigns over the nations; God sits on his holy throne.**

Psalm 93:1-2 **The Lord reigns**; he is robed in majesty; the Lord is robed; he has put on strength as his belt. Yes, the world is established; it shall never be moved. 2 **Your throne is established from of old**; you are from everlasting.

Job 40:6-9 6 Then the Lord answered Job out of the whirlwind and said: 7 "Dress for action like a man; I will question you, and you make it known to me. **8 Will you even put me in the wrong? Will you condemn me that you may be in the right?** 9 Have you an arm like God, and can you thunder with a voice like his? 10 "Adorn yourself with majesty and dignity; clothe yourself with glory and splendor. 11 Pour out the

overflowings of your anger, and look on everyone who is proud and abase him.
12 Look on everyone who is proud and bring him low and tread down the wicked where they stand. 13 Hide them all in the dust together; bind their faces in the world below. **14 Then will I also acknowledge to you that your own right hand can save you.**

God's Authority to Judge

Isaiah 33:22 **For the Lord is our judge; the Lord is our lawgiver; the Lord is our king;** he will save us.

Revelation 20:11-15 11 Then I saw a **great white throne** and him who was seated on it. From his presence earth and sky fled away, and no place was found for them.
12 And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Then another book was opened, which is **the book of life. And the dead were judged by what was written in the books, according to what they had done.**
13 And the sea gave up the dead who were in it, Death and Hades gave up the dead who were in them, and they were judged, each one of them, according to what they had done. 14 Then Death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire. 15 And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.

2 Cor 5:10 For we must all appear before **the judgment seat of Christ**, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil.

Romans 14:10-12 Why do you pass judgment on your brother? Or you, why do you despise your brother? For we will all stand before **the judgment seat of God**; for it is written, **"As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God."** So then each of us will give an account of himself to God.

Jesus' Authority

Jesus is God and has all the authority of God.

Matthew 28:18 And Jesus came and said to them, **“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.”**

When Jesus was on earth he was subject to the governing authorities.

John 19:11 Jesus answered him, **“You would have no authority over me at all unless it had been given you from above.”** Therefore he who delivered me over to you has the greater sin.”

Matt 22:41-46 41 Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them a question, 42 saying, “What do you think about the Christ? Whose son is he?” They said to him, “The son of David.” 43 He said to them, “How is it then that David, in the Spirit, calls him Lord, saying,
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“The Lord said to my Lord,
“Sit at my right hand,
until I put your enemies under your feet””?

45 If then David calls him Lord, how is he his son?” 46 And no one was able to answer him a word, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

Matt 17:24-27 When they came to Capernaum, the collectors of the two-drachma tax went up to Peter and said, “Does your teacher not pay the tax?” 25 He said, “Yes.” And when he came into the house, Jesus spoke to him first, saying, “What do you think, Simon? From whom do kings of the earth take toll or tax? **From their sons or from others?”** 26 And when he said, **“From others,”** Jesus said to him, **“Then the sons are free. 27 However,** not to give offense to them, go to the sea and cast a hook and take the first fish that comes up, and when you open its mouth you will find a shekel. **Take that and give it to them for me and for yourself.”**

Luke 22:53 When I was with you day after day in the temple, you did not lay hands on me. **But this is your hour,** and the power of darkness.”

Authority of Scripture

Scripture is our authority on Truth, Faith and Practice.

2 Timothy 3:16-17 **All Scripture is breathed out by God** and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, 17 that the man of God[a] may be complete, equipped for every good work.

2 Peter 1:21 21 For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, **but men spoke from God** as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

Authority of the Devil

2 Cor 4:4 “In their case **the god of this world** has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.”

Eph 6:12 For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but **against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.**

Luke 4:5-6 5 And the devil took him up and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time, **6 and said to him, “To you I will give all this authority and their glory, for it has been delivered to me, and I give it to whom I will.**

John 14:30 30 I will no longer talk much with you, **for the ruler of this world is coming. He has no claim on me, 31 but I do as the Father has commanded me, so that the world may know that I love the Father.** Rise, let us go from here.

Jesus reclaimed authority through the cross,

Eph 2:1-3 And you were dead in the trespasses and sins 2 in which you once walked, following the course of this world, **following the prince of the power of the air,** the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience—

Col 1:13 He has delivered us from the **domain of darkness** and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son,

Col 2:14-15 14 by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross. 15 **He disarmed the rulers and authorities** and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them in him.

Delegated Authority

Delegated Authority is Covenantal Delegated Authority is for the Purpose of Service

Daniel 4:17 17 The sentence is by the decree of the watchers, the decision by the word of the holy ones, to the end that the living may know that the **Most High rules the kingdom of men and gives it to whom he will and sets over it the lowliest of men.**

Luke 10:19 19 Behold, **I have given you authority to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall hurt you.**

Mark 6:7 And he called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and **gave them authority over the unclean spirits.**

Service

John 12:26 If anyone serves me, he must follow me; and where I am, there will my servant be also. If **anyone serves me, the Father will honor him.**

1 Corinthians 4:1 This is how one should regard us, **as servants of Christ** and stewards of the mysteries of God.

Luke 17:7-10 7 “Will any one of you who has a servant[c] plowing or keeping sheep say to him when he has come in from the field, ‘Come at once and recline at table’? 8 Will he not rather say to him, ‘Prepare supper for me, and dress properly,[d] and serve me while I eat and drink, and afterward you will eat and drink’? 9 Does he thank the servant because he did what was commanded? 10 So you also, when you have done all that you were commanded, say, **‘We are unworthy servants; we have only done what was our duty.’**”

2 Corinthians 4:5 For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with **ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake.**

Matthew 20:25-28 25 But Jesus called them to him and said, **“You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. 26 It shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, 27 and whoever would be first among you must be your slave, 28 even as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”**

Luke 22:26...Rather, let the greatest among you become as the youngest, and **the leader as one who serves.**

John 13:13-17 13 You call me Teacher and Lord, and you are right, for so I am. 14 **If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet.** 15 For I have given you an example, that you also should do just as I have done to you. 16 Truly, truly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. 17 If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them.

4 Authorities on Earth

Government Authority

Romans 13 **Let every person be subject to the governing authorities.** For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. 2 Therefore **whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment.** 3 For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Would you have no fear of the one who is in authority? Then **do what is good, and you will receive his approval,** 4 for **he is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain.** For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God's wrath on the wrongdoer. 5 Therefore **one must be in subjection,** not only to avoid God's wrath but also for the sake of conscience. 6 For because of this you also pay taxes, for the **authorities are ministers of God,** attending to this very thing.

1 Peter 2:13-14 **Be subject for the Lord's sake to every human institution**, whether it be to the emperor as supreme, or to governors as **sent by him to punish those who do evil and to praise those who do good.**

Titus 3:1-3 Remind them to **be submissive to rulers and authorities**, to be obedient, to be ready for every good work, 2 to speak evil of no one, to avoid quarreling, to be gentle, and to show perfect courtesy toward all people. 3 For we ourselves were once foolish, disobedient, led astray, slaves to various passions and pleasures, passing our days in malice and envy, hated by others and hating one another.

Family Authority

1 Cor 11:3 But I want you to understand that the head of every man is Christ, **the head of a wife is her husband, and the head of Christ is God.**

Ephesians 5:22-25 **Wives, submit to your own husbands**, as to the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church, his body, and is himself its Savior. Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit in everything to their husbands. **Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her,**

Proverbs 22:6 **Train up a child in the way he should go;** even when he is old he will not depart from it.

Ephesians 6:1-4 **Children, obey your parents in the Lord**, for this is right. 2 “Honor your father and mother” (this is the first commandment with a promise), 3 “that it may go well with you and that you may live long in the land.” 4 **Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.**

Proverbs 29:17 **Discipline your son, and he will give you rest; he will give delight to your heart.**

Psalms 103:13 **As a father shows compassion to his children**, so the Lord shows compassion to those who fear him.

Work Authority

1 Peter 2:18 **Servants, be subject to your masters with all respect**, not only to the good and gentle but also to the unjust.

Titus 2:9-10 **Bondservants are to be submissive to their own masters in everything**; they are to be well-pleasing, not argumentative, 10 not pilfering, but showing all good faith, so that in everything they may adorn the doctrine of God our Savior.

Ephesians 6:5-9 5 **Bondservants, obey your earthly masters** with fear and trembling, with a sincere heart, as you would Christ, 6 not by the way of eye-service, as people-pleasers, but as bondservants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart, 7 rendering service with a good will as to the Lord and not to man, 8 knowing that whatever good anyone does, this he will receive back from the Lord, whether he is a bondservant or is free. 9 **Masters, do the same to them**, and stop your threatening, knowing that he who is both their Master and yours is in heaven, and that there is no partiality with him.

The book of Philemon

Philemon 17 So if you consider me your partner, receive him as you would receive me. 18 If he has wronged you at all, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. 19 I, Paul, write this with my own hand: I will repay it—to say nothing of your owing me even your own self. 20 Yes, brother, I want some benefit from you in the Lord. Refresh my heart in Christ.

Spiritual Authority

Hebrews 13:17 **Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls**, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you.

1 Timothy 5:17 Let the elders **who rule** well be considered worthy of double honor, especially those who labor in preaching and teaching.

1 Peter 5:5 Likewise, **you who are younger, be subject to the elders**. Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another, for “God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.”

2 Cor 2:9 For this is why I wrote, that I might test you and know whether you are obedient in everything.

2 Cor 10:8 For even if I boast a little too much of **our authority, which the Lord gave for building you up and not for destroying you**, I will not be ashamed.