Authority – Over and Under October 25, 2026

- Our ability to function with authority is directly related to our ability to yield to authority (over and under)

Under God's Authority

- Luke 6:46–49 …"So why do you keep calling me 'Lord, Lord!' when you don't do what I say?
- Acts 19:13–16 …"I know Jesus, and I know Paul, but who are you?"
  - No authority without being yielded to Jesus's authority
- Matthew 8:5–10 … 9 I know this because I am under the authority of my superior officers, and I have authority over my soldiers.
  - Roman officer's faith directly related to his understanding of authority – both ways

Natural Places of Authority

- 1 John 4:20
  - Application – how can say we are under God's authority – whom we cannot see, if we are not yielded to the authority that God commands us to

Husbands and wives – Ephesians 5:21-25

- Submit to one another – reverence for Christ
- Wives to husbands (in everything) as to the Lord
- Husbands to wives – give up your life for her (like Jesus)

Parental Authority

- Ephesians 6:1–4 … Children, obey your parents because you belong to the Lord, for this is the right thing to do. …Fathers, … bring them up with the discipline and instruction that comes from the Lord.

Employment Authority

- Ephesians 6:5–9 (NLT) — 5 Slaves, obey your earthly masters with deep respect and fear. Serve them sincerely as you would serve Christ… Masters, treat your slaves in the same way. Don't threaten them; remember, you both have the same Master in heaven, and he has no favorites.

Governing Authority

- Romans 13:1–4 … 4 The authorities are God's servants, sent for your good. But if you are doing wrong, of course you should be afraid, for they have the power to punish you.

Spiritual Leadership

- Acts 20:28 "So guard yourselves and God's people…—over which the Holy Spirit has appointed you as leaders.
- Hebrews 13:17 (NLT) — 17 Obey your spiritual leaders and do what they say…
- Acts 4:18–20 …"Do you think God wants us to obey you rather than him?
- Acts 5:28–29 …Peter and the apostles replied, "We must obey God rather than any human authority.
- Acts 5:41 (NLT) — 41 The apostles left the high council rejoicing that God had counted them worthy to suffer disgrace for the name of Jesus.

The Place for an Appeal

- In every system of Authority
- Given an instruction –
  - Ask yourself – is any of this illegal, immoral, or unethical?
  - Or is it – I don't like it that way
- Authority – both over and under
  - Serve them
  - Prove yourself trustworthy
  - Earn their respect
- Matthew 20:25–28
  - You know that the rulers in this world lord it over their people,
  - Among you it will be different. Whoever wants to be a leader among you must be your servant,
  - Even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve others and to give his life as a ransom for many."
  - Jesus – our example of Authority over and under