

Is Authority Bad?

2 Samuel 23:1-4

Introduction:

→ We have a natural allergy to authority.

**The answer to bad authority is not
no authority, but good authority.**

→ Does that make authority a “necessary evil”?

What is authority?

**1. Good authority doesn't steal life
but creates it.**

*So God created man in his own image,
in the image of God he created him;
male and female he created them.*

*And God blessed them. And God said to them, "Be
fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and
have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the
birds of the heavens and over every living thing that
moves on the earth." (vv.26-28)*

**2. Good authority is not unaccountable
but submits to a higher authority.**

*So Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, the
Son can do nothing of his own accord, but only what he
sees the Father doing. For whatever the Father does,
that the Son does likewise. (John 5:19)*

**3. Good authority is not unteachable
but seeks wisdom.**

*A scoffer seeks wisdom in vain, but knowledge is easy
for a man of understanding. (Proverbs 14:6)*

**4. Good authority is neither permissive nor
authoritarian but administers discipline.**

*My son, do not despise the LORD's discipline
or be weary of his reproof,
for the LORD reproves him whom he loves,
as a father the son in whom he delights. (Prov 3:11–12)*

**5. Good authority is not self-protective
but bears the cross.**

*"For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to
serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."
(Mark 10:45)*

**★ Authority is a good gift from God that ★
images His rule over us.**