

It Comes From God - Authority 2Peter 1:16-21

God gave Christ all authority

Ephesians 1:22-23

Christ has Words of eternal life - "To Whom Shall We Go?"

Hebrews 1:1-4

Christ's Word delivered to inspired men

John 14:26

John 16:13-15

New Testament contains that Word

2Peter 1:12-15

2Peter 3:14-16

1John 2:1-2

Jude 3

How Do We Establish Authority?

Command-Example-Necessary Inference

Precept-Example-Implication

Statement-Action-Reason

Same method used in any other field of study

Demonstrated by early christians - *Acts 15*

James - Statement from God through prophet (15-18)

Peter - Example of Cornelius (7-10)

Paul and Barnabas - God's approval of their actions (12)

How Specific Is The Instruction?

Generic-Specific

Inclusive-Exclusive

Important for understanding what is required/allowed.

First - When? Who? To Whom? What?

Then - Required? Allowed? Excluded?

Consider Jesus' instruction to the 11 - *Matthew 28:16-20*

Go - broad, inclusive

Make disciples - narrow, exclusive

Baptizing them in the name of the Father, Son & Holy Spirit - narrow, exclusive in focus; yet general in location

Teaching them to observe all that I commanded you - narrow, exclusive in subject; yet general in method, location

Each teaching must be evaluated for full understanding.

God delivered His Word

John 12:44-50

We must establish God's Will for anything we do

Colossians 3:17

Authority Must Come From God

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