

THE AUTHORITY OF JESUS CHRIST

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God does not engage in idle talk! When God speaks, He means what He says and says what He means. Many want to do things their way instead of God's way. This creates a battle of wills. Who will win?

I. **Authority—Its Source.** “All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth” (Matt. 28:18). Jesus has supreme authority. No man has the right to usurp the authority of the Lord Jesus Christ.

II. **Authority—Its Nature.** Jesus has the right to “bind and loose.” This means that He has the right to command men to obey Him. “Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you...” (Matt. 28:19, 20). We are responsible to heed those things revealed by God (Heb. 2:1-3). The Scriptures should command our attention, time, thoughtfulness, faith and obedience.

III. **Authority—Its Accountability.** Jesus said, “He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day” (John 12:48). Why listen to God and Christ? God's Word will judge us in the last day. We are accountable to God for our words, attitudes, and actions. If we use our will to defy the God of heaven, we will face the wrath of God. If we use our will to do the will of the Father, we will receive God's favor.

“Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city” (Rev. 22:14).