

## Authority: God's Way vs. Man's Way

I don't believe that anyone really enjoys being told what to do. We all have a sense of independence, especially as we are "grownups." However, we are never too old to come under the authority of someone or something. In our jobs, we have those in higher positions that have authority over us. There are systems in place and rules to which we must adhere. That is simply a fact of life.

This is especially the case in spiritual matters. However, as we look at spiritual pursuits, we see many who want to do things "their way." Doing so may result in twisting the Scriptures to fit their needs or ignoring them completely. In this series of sermons and articles we will refer to this practice as doing things "Man's Way." We will contrast that approach by showing that, in reality, to be acceptable to God, we must do things "God's Way."

Doing things "God's Way" requires examining and applying the Scriptures for ascertaining authority in all matters (Col. 3:17). It requires acknowledging that God's Word, as the source of authority, will be that which judges all men in the last day (Jno. 12:48-50). It requires submitting our wills to that of a "higher power." This higher power is God and His will, as revealed in the Scriptures. He has provided all we need in such matters (2 Pet. 1:3). May we be those who will honestly evaluate everything we do and be willing to change if it does not fall in line with His will.

### Sermon: God's Way vs. Man's Way (1): Authority

#### 1. Principles that will be foundational to our series:

- A. The inspired, inerrant word of God exists (2 Tim. 3:16-17; Jno. 8:32; 17:17; 2 Cor. 5:18-19; Psa. 119:140; Jno. 12:48).
- B. The Bible is complete, unified and indestructible (2 Pet. 1:3; Psa. 119:89;
- C. The ability of God's Word (Heb. 4:12; Psa. 119:9; 1 Pet. 1:22-25)
- D. Christ has all authority (Matt. 28:18; Heb. 1:1-2; Col. 3:17)
- E. All men are subject to that will (2 Tim. 2:15; 1:13; 2 Thes. 2:15)
- F. We must seek God's Way (2 Cor. 4:2; James 1:21-25)

#### 2. Application: Three Biblical Examples (Gen. 6:13-22; Lev. 10:2; 16:12; 2 Kgs. 5:1ff.

### P.M. Sermon – Galatians (1)