

The Lord's Church

I. Attitude Toward Authority

Mark 1:21-22: Jesus taught with authority

Jesus displayed authority, 23-27

Three years later, 11:27-33

- 27-28: these things?
 - 1-11: grand entrance
 - 15-17: cleansing
 - 18: authoritative teaching

Mark 1:21-22: Jesus taught with authority

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Three years later, 11:27-33

- 27-28: these things?
 - By what authority (28)
 - If He merely asserted for three years without proof, it would be a draw
 - Recognized need for authority (29)
 - Realized authority comes from one who has rightful power to grant it

Mark 1:21-22: Jesus taught with authority

Jesus displayed authority, 23-27

Three years later, 11:27-33

- 27-28: these things?
- 29-30: only two sources of authority...
- 31-32: more concerned about what they say than what God said, and for consequences, not truth
- 33: plead ignorance – *we do not know*

Their attitude contradicts revelation of God

- Deut.4² You shall not add to the word which I command you, nor take from it, that you may keep the commandments of the LORD your God which I command you
- Changing the word prevents doing His will
 - Acts 2:38
 - Rom.3:28
- Attitude paved way for denominationalism
 - “I believe in a kind God...”

Their attitude contradicts revelation of God

- Prov.30⁶ Do not add to His words, Lest He rebuke you, and you be found a liar.
- **Adding makes liars**
 - Do not mix human dross with His gold
 - Mt.15:2 . . . 4 . . . 6 . . . 7 . . . 9 . . .
 - Jesus exposed them as liars who do not keep His word.

Their attitude contradicts revelation of God

- Jer.10²³ O Lord, I know the way of man is not in himself; It is not in man who walks to direct his own steps.
- We don't know what God wants unless He tells us
 - Not by stars, signs, omens, opinions, etc.

Their attitude contradicts revelation of God

- Mt.28¹⁸ And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. ¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.

Their attitude contradicts revelation of God

- Mt.28 – if He had partial authority like a provincial governor, He might have sent them to part of the world
 - All authority (1 Co.15:24) . . . nothing can escape His jurisdiction.
 - Has been given (Dn.7:13-14)
 - When God speaks, we listen

Their attitude contradicts revelation of God

- Gal.1⁶ I marvel that you are turning away so soon from Him who called you in the grace of Christ, to a different gospel, ⁷ which is not another; but there are some who trouble you and want to pervert the gospel of Christ. ⁸ But even if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached to you, let him be accursed. ⁹ As we have said before, so now I say again, if anyone preaches any other gospel to you than what you have received, let him be accursed

Their attitude contradicts revelation of God

- Gal.1 – **where angels fear to tread**
 - Turning away: in process of deserting or transferring from one thing to another
 - 1 K.21:25

Their attitude contradicts revelation of God

- Ph.3¹⁶ Nevertheless, to the degree that we have already attained, let us walk by the same rule, let us be of the same mind
- Learning how to walk
 - Use the light we have; will give us more
 - Jn.3:21, do truth, come to light

Their attitude contradicts revelation of God

- Col.3¹⁷ And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him
- You are citizen of Colosse: what does verse 17 mean?
 - “Comprehensive”:
 - personal conduct
 - public assemblies
 - private thoughts and deeds

I. Attitude Toward Authority

II. What Does “Church” Mean?

English “church” < Gk. word, *belonging to the Lord*

- Universal: the one body of Christ. Ep.4:4
- Local: seven churches of Asia; one Lord examined / corrected each by one standard
 - Rev.2:2, tested
 - Rev.2:10, faithful
 - Rev.2:13, killed
 - Rev.2:20, allow Jezebel...

English “church” < Gk. word, *belonging to the Lord*

- Universal: the one body of Christ. Ep.4:4
- Local: seven churches of Asia; one Lord examined / corrected each by one standard
- Assembly: 1 Co.11:18
- Denomination ? ? Jn.17:20-21

I. Attitude Toward Authority

II. What Does “Church” Mean?

III. What Is A “Local Church”?

Everyone has an opinion

World Book:

World community of Christians

Any denomination professing same Christian creed, as Methodist Church

National religious body, as Church of England

In early Christianity, often means the worship of God by a group of Christians, as church in Antioch, Syria

Church

- “In common usage for several hundred years before the Christian era and was used to refer to an assembly of persons constituted by well-defined membership” – L-N
- Acts 19:32, 39, 40, secular use
- OT (LXX): Dt.31:30
- Congregation of Christians, implying interacting membership – L-N
 - Mt.-Jn.: church: **2 times.** Acts: **19 times.**
 - NT: **115 times**

Corinth

Acts 18:8

- 1 Co.1:2 ... 1 Co.5:2-5 ... 1 Co.11
- 1 Co.14:23

- “I am a church of Christ”
 - “I am an assembly at Athens”?
 - “I am a denominational church”?
- *1 Co.12:14, for the body is not
one member but many

How does NT refer to the church?

- Ro.16:4, churches of the Gentiles
- Ro.16:16, churches of Christ...
- 1 Co.11:16, churches of God...
- 1 Co.14:33, churches of the saints...
- 1 Co.16:1, churches of Galatia –
– v.19, churches of Asia)
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 - Terms describe either . . .
¹ composition, ² ownership, or ³ location

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IV. This Is A Test

Where is Authority for...

Subject	Statement/ Command	Approved Example	Forced conclusion
Elders: one congregation	Ac.20; 1 Pt.5	Ac.14:23	1 Tim.3:5
Church: relief	1 Tim.5:16	Ac.2; 4; 6	X
Church relieve churches	1 Co.16	2 Co.8-9; Ro.15	X
Elders – ch's.	?	?	?
M. Society	?	?	?
Ch. – Ch.	?	?	?
Ch. recreation	?	?	?