

LIFE IN THE KINGDOM

5. AUTHORITY

The King created us to reign on His behalf here on Earth as He has delegated His authority to us, but what is authority?

Authority is the privilege given by God to be like Him on Earth, reflecting His characteristics and being the visible image of the invisible God. That is what Jesus came to do and when He died He sent us the Holy Spirit so that we as His body and His church could do the same.



Authority must: care for, protect, defend, provide, nourish, sustain, encourage, uplift, affirm, guide and even discipline with the purpose that those who were placed under its responsibility come to produce fruit with seed according to their kind. Basically this reflects the work of a farmer with the field that was given to him. Your task is to till it, prepare it, sow seeds in it, care for it, and water it until it produces a great harvest. This same process is how it works with us and the Kingdom of God. We must do the same with the field we have been given. After we complete one cycle we must repeat the process; expanding the territory, reproducing, multiplying and filling the Earth until all of it is filled with the glory, (image), of Our Heavenly Father.

The Lord God placed the man in the Garden of Eden to tend and watch over it.

Genesis 2:15 NIV

God put man in the garden to represent Him doing for others what He planned from the beginning. That is why the first and most important figure of authority on Earth are parents. Through them each human being should know and experience parenthood, which is the love of God. This is why in the 10 commandments after loving Him and honouring Him, the very next command refers to our parents.

***»“Honor your father and mother.
Then you will live a long,
full life in the land the Lord your
God is giving you***

Exodus 20:12 NLT

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All authority is imposed by God. When we live under the spiritual authority that God established for us; we are directly under Him enjoying all His blessings, all His love, all the support of the Kingdom of Heaven and transforming into His image and likeness. When we position ourselves under His authority this allows us to be His channels or vessels with the ability to impart His love to others.

To live without authority is to live in anarchy; without government. No one who lives in rebellion will receive authority, at least not from God. There are those who are in positions of authority but they have not been given by God. These particular people will depend on their own efforts and resources to maintain the position and what they are responsible for.

God provides for Himself meaning that He provides everything necessary to perform His ordinances. He sustains everything to which He has delegated His authority. This principle works at all levels but it was designed so that its application begins with the family.

This authority is not a right nor can it be imposed or required. The authority of the Kingdom of God is a privilege to love and is earned by loving others, laying down one's life for others, and living under authority.

But Jesus called them together and said,

“You know that the rulers in this world lord it over their people, and officials flaunt their authority over those under them. 26 But among you it will be different. Whoever wants to be a leader among you must be your servant,

Mathew 20:25-26 NTV

Study Questions

1. According to the text, how is authority defined and what is its relationship to God's representation being shown on Earth?
2. Why is the importance of parents highlighted as the first and most important authority figure on Earth?
3. How can fulfilling the mandate to honour parents contribute to experiencing fatherhood and the love of God?
4. The text mentions that all authority is imposed by God and that living without authority is living in anarchy. How can we understand the relationship between the spiritual authority established by God and the reception of His blessings, love and support from the Kingdom of Heaven?

