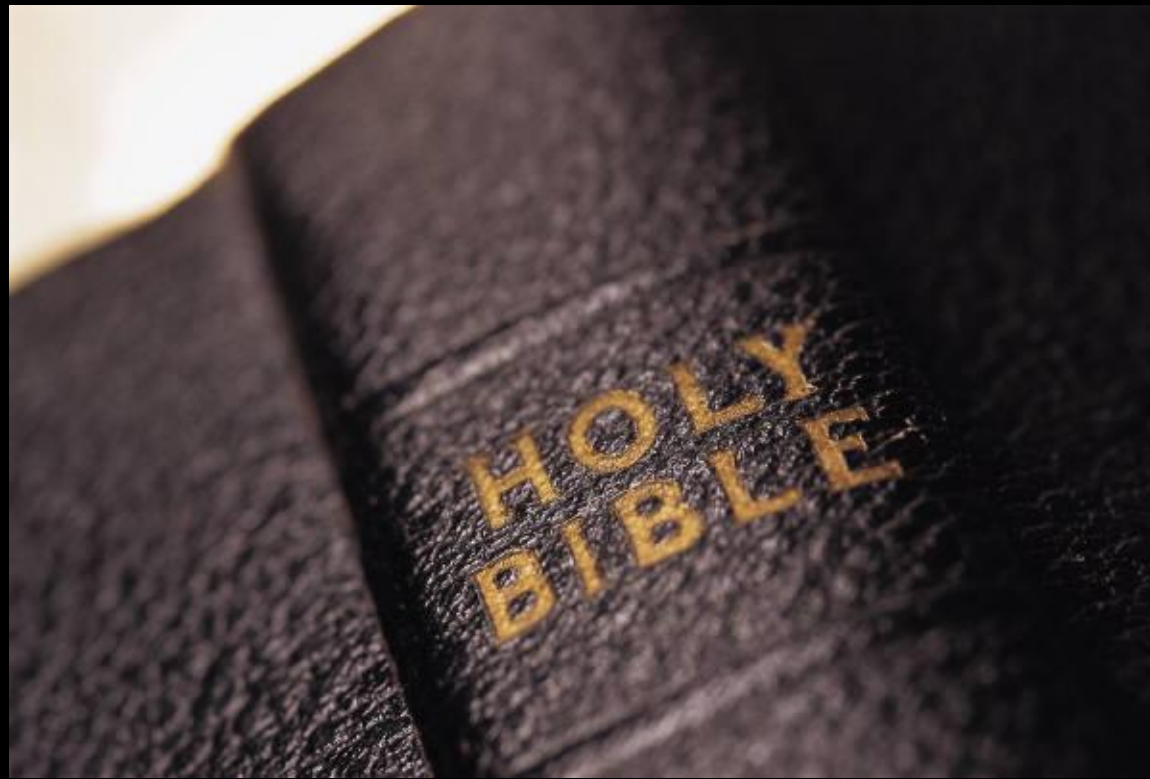


# Bible Authority



# Bible Review

- Manuscripts
- Revelation
- Covenants
- All are subject to God's laws
- God desires His people to study His laws

# The Sovereignty of God

- Sovereignty (Isa. 46:9-10)
- Dominion (Jer. 32:27)
- Rule (Isa. 9:6-7)
- Supreme Power (“*Great is our Lord, and mighty in power; His understanding is infinite*” [Ps. 147:5]).
- God is the law giver (Jer. 31:31-34).

# Authority

- The chief priest asks Jesus, “By what **authority** do you these things?” (Matt. 21:23).
- Authority = “the power to command, enforce laws, exact obedience, determine, or judge” (AHD 142).
- The Father gave Jesus the ‘power to command’ (authority) (Matt. 28:18; Jn. 7:16).
- Man is justified by the authority of Jesus (cf. Rom. 1:16; I Cor. 6:11).

# What Does God Desire of Me?

- That I would do all things by His instructions (Col. 3:17).
- That I would obey His laws (II Jn. 9; I Tim. 6:13-14; II Tim. 1:13).

# How can I determine whether or not my actions are Lawful?

- Direct commands (II Thess. 3:6, 10; I Cor. 1:10; 5:4-5).
- Apostolic Example (Phil. 4:9).
- Necessary Inference (I Cor. 11:20-21).
- God's silence does not equate to my liberty (Heb. 7:13-14).

# Why are there so many who do things Differently than what the Bible Commands?

- To get gain (I Thess. 2:5-6; II Cor. 12:17).
- Because they are envious and filled with strife (Phil. 1:15).
- To gain a following (II Cor. 1:24; 12:14ff).
- To be self expressive (I think this is the way things ought to be) (II Cor. 1:12; 2:17; 4:5; 5:12; 10:12; **I Thess. 2:13**).
- Because some walk by sight rather than faith (I Cor. 10:14; II Cor. 5:7; I Jn. 5:21).

# What if I reject God's Authority and do things the way I want to?

- I will be rejected of God (Matt. 7:21-23).
- God will not spare me in judgment (II Pet. 2:4; Jude 6).

# **“My church does things different than this church does”**

- Remember II John 9? (My conduct is not a matter of personal choice and interpretation of the scriptures)
- The Lord is head of one church (Eph. 4:4).
- One truth governs all local churches (I Cor. 4:17).
- This one truth will be the standard that all men are judged by (Jn. 12:48)

# Concluding Thoughts

- God exercises sovereignty over all creation.
- All are subject to His laws.
- Man should seek God's authority for all his / her actions (Col. 3:17).
- God's authority is revealed in the Bible through commands, inference, and examples.
- When God commands man should respect God's silence (Heb. 7:13ff).
- If I reject God's authority He will reject and not spare me at the Day of Judgment.