

The Church v2

Lesson 5

The Only Source of Divine Authority Today

The Church v2

1. What is the church?
2. The nature of the universal church
3. The nature of a local church
4. Unreliable sources of religious authority
5. The only source of Divine authority today
6. How to establish Divine authority
7. Things that are expedient

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The Church v2

8. Respecting the silence of the Scriptures
9. The organization of a local church
10. The work of a local church
11. Independence autonomy and cooperation of local churches
12. Institutionalism
13. The social gospel
14. The unity of the church

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Unreliable Sources of Religious Authority

1. What is authority and why do we need it?
2. The Old Testament
3. Majority rule
4. Family
5. Preachers and other religious leaders
6. Good results

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Unreliable Sources of Religious Authority

7. Written and unwritten traditions of men
8. Our conscience, feelings
9. Human wisdom

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Introduction

- Sadly, many follow unreliable sources of religious authority that have produced many churches that teach and practice conflicting things
- To be unified with God and one another, we must submit to the only true source of Divine authority today, the apostles' teaching, the New Testament

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Introduction

- Jesus has been given all authority from His Father to save, be Lord of all, head of His one church and high priest
- Although He spoke truth directly to His apostles, He promised they would be guided into all truth by the Holy Spirit
- After His ascension to heaven, the Holy Spirit revealed and confirmed to them the complete truth which they spoke and wrote for us to have today

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The Father Has Given Jesus All Authority

Joh 10:17 "For this reason the Father loves Me, because I lay down My life so that I may take it again.

Joh 10:18 "No one has taken it away from Me, but I lay it down on My own initiative. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This commandment I received from My Father."

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The Father Has Given Jesus All Authority

Mat 26:28 for this is My blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for forgiveness of sins.

Mat 26:32 "But after I have been raised, I will go ahead of you to Galilee."

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The Father Has Given Jesus All Authority

Mat 28:18 And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

Mat 28:19 "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit,

Mat 28:20 teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

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The Father Has Given Jesus All Authority

Act 2:22 "Men of Israel, listen to these words: Jesus the Nazarene, a man attested to you by God with miracles and wonders and signs which God performed through Him in your midst, just as you yourselves know--

Act 2:23 this Man, delivered over by the predetermined plan and foreknowledge of God, you nailed to a cross by the hands of godless men and put Him to death.

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The Father Has Given Jesus All Authority

Act 2:24 "But God raised Him up again, putting an end to the agony of death, since it was impossible for Him to be held in its power.

Act 2:29 "Brethren, I may confidently say to you regarding the patriarch David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day.

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The Father Has Given Jesus All Authority

Act 2:30 "And so, because he was a prophet and knew that GOD HAD SWORN TO HIM WITH AN OATH TO SEAT one OF HIS DESCENDANTS ON HIS THRONE,
Act 2:31 he looked ahead and spoke of the resurrection of the Christ, that HE WAS NEITHER ABANDONED TO HADES, NOR DID His flesh SUFFER DECAY.

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The Father Has Given Jesus All Authority

Act 2:32 "This Jesus God raised up again, to which we are all witnesses.
Act 2:33 "Therefore having been exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He has poured forth this which you both see and hear.

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The Father Has Given Jesus All Authority

Act 2:34 "For it was not David who ascended into heaven, but he himself says: 'THE LORD SAID TO MY LORD, "SIT AT MY RIGHT HAND,
Act 2:35 UNTIL I MAKE YOUR ENEMIES A FOOTSTOOL FOR YOUR FEET."

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The Father Has Given Jesus All Authority

Act 2:36 "Therefore let all the house of Israel know for certain that God has made Him both Lord and Christ--this Jesus whom you crucified."
Act 2:37 Now when they heard this, they were pierced to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Brethren, what shall we do?"

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The Father Has Given Jesus All Authority

Act 2:38 Peter said to them, "Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.
Act 2:41 So then, those who had received his word were baptized; and that day there were added about three thousand souls.

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The Father Has Given Jesus All Authority

Act 2:42 They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.
Act 2:47 praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord was adding to their number day by day those who were being saved.

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The Father Has Given Jesus All Authority

Eph 1:20 which He brought about in Christ, when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places,

Eph 1:21 far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come.

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The Father Has Given Jesus All Authority

Eph 1:22 And He put all things in subjection under His feet, and gave Him as head over all things to the church,

Eph 1:23 which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.

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The Father Has Given Jesus All Authority

Eph 5:23 For the husband is the head of the wife, as Christ also is the head of the church, He Himself being the Savior of the body.

Eph 5:24 But as the church is subject to Christ, so also the wives ought to be to their husbands in everything.

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The Father Has Given Jesus All Authority

Eph 5:25 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her,

Eph 5:26 so that He might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word,

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The Father Has Given Jesus All Authority

Eph 5:27 that He might present to Himself the church in all her glory, having no spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that she would be holy and blameless.

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The Father Has Given Jesus All Authority

Heb 1:1 God, after He spoke long ago to the fathers in the prophets in many portions and in many ways,

Heb 1:2 in these last days has spoken to us in His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the world.

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The Father Has Given Jesus All Authority

Joh 14:6 Jesus *said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me.

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The Father Has Given Jesus All Authority

Joh 6:44 "No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up on the last day.

Joh 6:45 "It is written in the prophets, 'AND THEY SHALL ALL BE TAUGHT OF GOD.' Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father, comes to Me.

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The Only Source of Divine Authority Today

1. The Father has given Jesus all authority

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Jesus Promised To Give Authority To His Apostles

- Jesus spoke truth to His apostles, those who He sent out to teach others the truth
- But, He promised them He would send the Holy Spirit to guide them into all truth
- We must receive and follow their teaching if we are to receive and follow Jesus

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Jesus Promised To Give Authority To His Apostles

Joh 17:7 "Now they have come to know that everything You have given Me is from You;
Joh 17:8 for the words which You gave Me I have given to them; and they received them and truly understood that I came forth from You, and they believed that You sent Me.

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Jesus Promised To Give Authority To His Apostles

Joh 14:26 "But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I said to you.

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Jesus Promised To Give Authority To His Apostles

Joh 16:12 "I have many more things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now.

Joh 16:13 "But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth; for He will not speak on His own initiative, but whatever He hears, He will speak; and He will disclose to you what is to come.

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Jesus Promised To Give Authority To His Apostles

Joh 16:14 "He will glorify Me, for He will take of Mine and will disclose it to you.

Joh 16:15 "All things that the Father has are Mine; therefore I said that He takes of Mine and will disclose it to you.

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Jesus Promised To Give Authority To His Apostles

Joh 13:20 "Truly, truly, I say to you, he who receives whomever I send receives Me; and he who receives Me receives Him who sent Me."

Joh 17:20 "I do not ask on behalf of these alone, but for those also who believe in Me through their word;

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Jesus Promised To Give Authority To His Apostles

Joh 17:21 that they may all be one; even as You, Father, are in Me and I in You, that they also may be in Us, so that the world may believe that You sent Me.

Act 2:42 They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

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The Apostles Spoke, Confirmed And Wrote The Authorized Teaching of The Lord

Act 2:1 When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place.

Act 2:2 And suddenly there came from heaven a noise like a violent rushing wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting.

Act 2:3 And there appeared to them tongues as of fire distributing themselves, and they rested on each one of them.

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The Apostles Spoke, Confirmed And Wrote The Authorized Teaching of The Lord

Act 2:4 And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit was giving them utterance.

Act 2:8 "And how is it that we each hear them in our own language to which we were born?

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The Apostles Spoke, Confirmed And Wrote
The Authorized Teaching of The Lord

Act 2:42 They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

Act 2:43 Everyone kept feeling a sense of awe; and many wonders and signs were taking place through the apostles.

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The Apostles Spoke, Confirmed And Wrote
The Authorized Teaching of The Lord

1Co 2:10 For to us God revealed them through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches all things, even the depths of God.

1Co 2:11 For who among men knows the thoughts of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so the thoughts of God no one knows except the Spirit of God.

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The Apostles Spoke, Confirmed And Wrote
The Authorized Teaching of The Lord

1Co 2:12 Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, so that we may know the things freely given to us by God,

1Co 2:13 which things we also speak, not in words taught by human wisdom, but in those taught by the Spirit, combining spiritual thoughts with spiritual words.

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The Apostles Spoke, Confirmed And Wrote
The Authorized Teaching of The Lord

Heb 2:1 For this reason we must pay much closer attention to what we have heard, so that we do not drift away from it.

Heb 2:2 For if the word spoken through angels proved unalterable, and every transgression and disobedience received a just penalty,

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The Apostles Spoke, Confirmed And Wrote
The Authorized Teaching of The Lord

Heb 2:3 how will we escape if we neglect so great a salvation? After it was at the first spoken through the Lord, it was confirmed to us by those who heard,

Heb 2:4 God also testifying with them, both by signs and wonders and by various miracles and by gifts of the Holy Spirit according to His own will.

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The Apostles Spoke, Confirmed And Wrote
The Authorized Teaching of The Lord

Eph 3:1 For this reason I, Paul, the prisoner of Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles--

Eph 3:2 if indeed you have heard of the stewardship of God's grace which was given to me for you;

Eph 3:3 that by revelation there was made known to me the mystery, as I wrote before in brief.

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The Apostles Spoke, Confirmed And Wrote
The Authorized Teaching of The Lord

Eph 3:4 By referring to this, when you read
you can understand my insight into the
mystery of Christ,

Eph 3:5 which in other generations was not
made known to the sons of men, as it has
now been revealed to His holy apostles and
prophets in the Spirit;

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The Apostles Spoke, Confirmed And Wrote
The Authorized Teaching of The Lord

Eph 3:6 to be specific, that the Gentiles are
fellow heirs and fellow members of the body,
and fellow partakers of the promise in Christ
Jesus through the gospel,

Eph 3:7 of which I was made a minister,
according to the gift of God's grace which
was given to me according to the working of
His power.

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The Apostles Spoke, Confirmed And Wrote
The Authorized Teaching of The Lord

1Co 14:37 If anyone thinks he is a prophet
or spiritual, let him recognize that the things
which I write to you are the Lord's
commandment.

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The Apostles Spoke, Confirmed And Wrote
The Authorized Teaching of The Lord

Joh 20:30 Therefore many other signs
Jesus also performed in the presence of the
disciples, which are not written in this book;
Joh 20:31 but these have been written so
that you may believe that Jesus is the
Christ, the Son of God; and that believing
you may have life in His name.

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The New Testament Is God's Complete
Final All-sufficient Guide For Us
Today

- The New Testament claims to be God's
complete and all-sufficient truth, the only
guiding Word we must follow today
- Many churches claim either this Word has
been corrupted or has not been completed
- This leads to false revelations and
miracles
- Examples – Mormons, Jehovah's
Witnesses and Seventh-day Adventists
and Pentecostals

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The New Testament Is God's Complete
Final All-sufficient Guide For Us
Today

Jud 1:3 Beloved, while I was making every
effort to write you about our common
salvation, I felt the necessity to write to you
appealing that you contend earnestly for the
faith which was once for all handed down to
the saints.

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The New Testament Is God's Complete
Final All-sufficient Guide For Us

Today

Jud 1:4 For certain persons have crept in unnoticed, those who were long beforehand marked out for this condemnation, ungodly persons who turn the grace of our God into licentiousness and deny our only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ.

Heb 10:10 By this will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

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The New Testament Is God's Complete
Final All-sufficient Guide For Us

Today

2Ti 3:16 All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness;

2Ti 3:17 so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.

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The New Testament Is God's Complete
Final All-sufficient Guide For Us

Today

Act 20:27 "For I did not shrink from declaring to you the whole purpose of God.

Act 20:32 "And now I commend you to God and to the word of His grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified.

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The New Testament Is God's Complete
Final All-sufficient Guide For Us

Today

2Pe 1:3 seeing that His divine power has granted to us everything pertaining to life and godliness, through the true knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and excellence.

2Pe 1:4 For by these He has granted to us His precious and magnificent promises, so that by them you may become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world by lust.

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The New Testament Is God's Complete
Final All-sufficient Guide For Us

Today

2Pe 1:5 Now for this very reason also, applying all diligence, in your faith supply moral excellence, and in your moral excellence, knowledge,

2Pe 1:6 and in your knowledge, self-control, and in your self-control, perseverance, and in your perseverance, godliness,

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The New Testament Is God's Complete
Final All-sufficient Guide For Us

Today

2Pe 1:7 and in your godliness, brotherly kindness, and in your brotherly kindness, love.

2Pe 1:8 For if these qualities are yours and are increasing, they render you neither useless nor unfruitful in the true knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

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The New Testament Is God's Complete
Final All-sufficient Guide For Us

Today

2Pe 1:9 For he who lacks these qualities is blind or short-sighted, having forgotten his purification from his former sins.

2Pe 1:10 Therefore, brethren, be all the more diligent to make certain about His calling and choosing you; for as long as you practice these things, you will never stumble;

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The New Testament Is God's Complete
Final All-sufficient Guide For Us

Today

2Pe 1:11 for in this way the entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ will be abundantly supplied to you.

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The New Testament Is God's Complete
Final All-sufficient Guide For Us

Today

Act 17:11 Now these were more noble-minded than those in Thessalonica, for they received the word with great eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily to see whether these things were so.

Gal 1:8 But even if we, or an angel from heaven, should preach to you a gospel contrary to what we have preached to you, he is to be accursed!

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The New Testament Is God's Complete
Final All-sufficient Guide For Us

Today

1Co 13:8 Love never fails; but if there are gifts of prophecy, they will be done away; if there are tongues, they will cease; if there is knowledge, it will be done away.

1Co 13:9 For we know in part and we prophesy in part;

1Co 13:10 but when the perfect comes, the partial will be done away.

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The Only Source of Divine
Authority Today

1. The Father has given Jesus all authority
2. Jesus promised to give authority to his apostles
3. The apostles spoke, confirmed and wrote the authorized teaching of the Lord
4. The New Testament is God's complete final all-sufficient guide for us today

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