

^{the}
Enthroned
King

Defending the Authority of God

“Whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to God the Father.”

(Colossians 3:17)

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PSALM 2

The Sovereign Authority of God

“Those who contend with the LORD will be shattered; against them He will thunder in the heavens, the LORD will judge the ends of the earth; and He will give strength to His king, and he will exalt the horn of His anointed”

(1 Sam. 2:10).

The Sovereign Authority of God

“He said, ‘O LORD, the God of our fathers, are you not God in the heavens? And are you not ruler over all the kingdoms of the nations? Power and might are in your hand so that no one can stand against You.’”

(2 Chronicles 20:6; 1 Chronicles 29:10-13).

The Sovereign Authority of God

"Woe to the one who quarrels with his Maker - An earthenware vessel among the vessels of earth! Will the clay say to the potter, 'What are you doing?' Or the thing you are making say, 'He has no hands'?"
"Woe to him who says to a father, 'What are you begetting?' Or to a woman, 'To what are you giving birth?'"
(Isaiah 45:9-10).

The Sovereign Authority of God

“So, in the present case, I say to you, stay away from these men and let them alone, for if this plan or action is of men, it will be overthrown; but if it is of God, you will not be able to overthrow them; or else you may even be found fighting against God”

(Acts 5:38-39).

The Sovereign Authority of God

- “Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice; and let them say among the nations, ‘The Lord reigns’” (1 Chron. 16:31).
- “Worthy are You, our Lord and our God, to receive glory and honor and power; for You created all things, and because of Your will they existed, and were created” (Rev. 4:11).

The Sovereign Authority of God

- “The LORD reigns, He is clothed with majesty; The LORD has clothed and girded Himself with strength; Indeed, the world is firmly established, it will not be moved” (Psalm 93:1).
- “Instead, you ought to say, ‘If the Lord wills, we will live and also do this or that’” (James 4:15).

“Turn to Me and be saved,
all the ends of the earth; for I
am God, and there is no
other. I have sworn by
Myself, the word has gone
forth from My mouth in
righteousness and will not
turn back, **that to Me every
knee will bow, every tongue
will swear allegiance”**

(Isaiah 45:22, 23).

“For this reason also, God
highly exalted Him, and
bestowed on Him the name
which is above every
name, **so that at the name
of Jesus every knee will
bow, of those who are in
heaven and on earth and
under the earth, and that
every tongue will confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord, to
the glory of the Father”**

(Philippians 2:9-11).

The Sovereignty of Jesus Christ

Faith & Authority

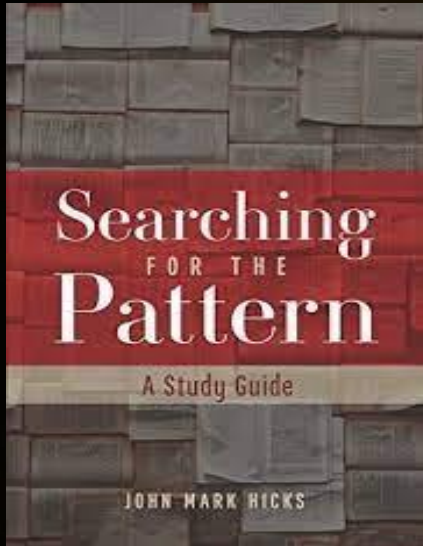
The Faith of the Centurion (Matt. 8:5-13).

- Jesus and the Centurion's discussion the nature of authority and Jesus' power (8:8-9).
- Trusting in Jesus is trusting that He has all authority (Matthew 28:18).
- When Jesus evaluated their conversation about authority he did not say, "I have not found a man in all of Israel with such a great grasp of authority" – He said, "I have not found in Israel such great faith."

Love of God & Authority

What is the Biblical Definition of Love?

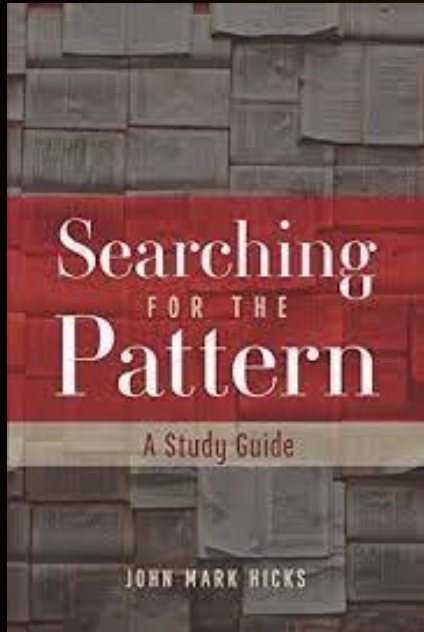
- To preach the love of God is to preach the perfect example of Jesus (Hebrews 5:8-9).
- To preach the love of God is to preach an obedient faith (John 14:15; John 15:14; I John 5:3).
- To preach about our need to love God with our whole heart is to preach about sacrificial discipleship (Matt. 10:32-39).



Hicks, John Mark. Searching for the Pattern: My Journey in Interpreting the Bible (p. 79). Kindle Edition.

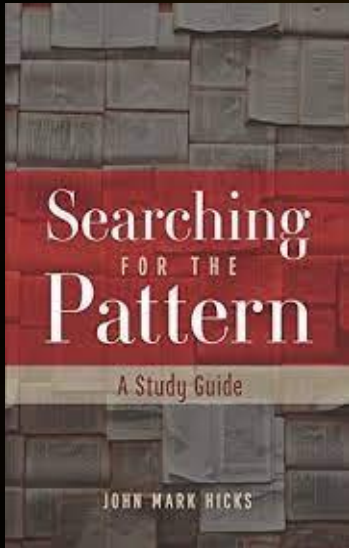
“Perhaps another way to say this is to recognize that Paul’s step two does not find its pattern in some detailed and exclusive blueprint for church practices but in the pattern of God’s mighty acts in Israel and Jesus the Messiah. Instead of applying a blueprint for church practices to Corinth as if he were shown an ideal pattern for how churches must conduct their Sunday assembly, Paul resources the workings of God’s grace in providence and salvation, Israel’s history, and the gospel of Jesus the Messiah. The pattern is the activity of God, which finds its fullness in the incarnation, life, death, resurrection, and exaltation of Jesus the Messiah.”

“Ritual is not the most important thing. The Sabbath was made for humanity, not humanity for the Sabbath (cf. Mark 2:23-3:6). Ritual is made for humanity, not humanity for ritual. Rituals serve the ends for which God has designed them, but they must never be used to oppress and repress the heart that seeks God. When we use rituals to deny mercy, then we put ourselves in the position of the Pharisees ... The fundamental problem with ecclesial perfectionism, and the hermeneutic that drives it, is this: it exalts sacrifice over mercy.”



“It assumes that humanity was made for rituals (baptism, weekly Lord’s supper, church patterns, etc.) rather than rituals were made for humanity. It prioritizes “sacrifice” (ritual patterns) over “mercy” (transformation), and thus condemns the guiltless (to use the words of Jesus).”

Why not say
“obedient” instead
of “perfectionistic”?



Hicks, John Mark. Searching
for the Pattern: My Journey in
Interpreting the Bible (p. 79).
Kindle Edition.

Perfectionistic patternism
makes the same mistake
the Pharisees made in
Matthew 12 in regard to
the Sabbath. It does not
understand that God
desires mercy over
sacrifice, that is, God
embraces the heart that
seeks mercy over the heart
that exalts rituals—even
prescribed ones—over
seeking, trusting hearts.

Jesus-Centered Hermeneutic

- Divine Example of Creation (Matt. 19:4)
- Direct Statement (Matt. 19:5)
- Necessary Implication/Inference (Matt. 19:6).



Jesus-Centered Hermeneutic

- Apostolic teachings came from Jesus and the Holy Spirit (John 14:16, 26; 16:13)
- Why ignore the pattern revealed for the local congregation (1 Cor. 4:17; 11:1-14:37; 1 Tim. 4:6, 11; 1 Tim. 6:3; 2 Tim. 1:13; 2 Tim. 4:2; Tit. 2:1)
- New Hermeneutic = no hermeneutic

Holy Praise & Authority

- **God-centered worship is concerned about Biblical authority.**
- **Man centered worship is concerned about what “I” want.**



*“What comes into our mind when we think about God is the most important thing to us...the history of mankind will probably show that no people has ever risen above its religion and man’s history will positively demonstrate that **no religion has ever been greater than its idea of God.** Worship is pure or base as the worshipper entertains high or low thoughts of God...Were we able to extract from any man a complete answer to the question, ‘What comes into your mind when you think about God?’ we might predict with certainty the spiritual future of that man”*

(A.W. Tozer, Reprising; New York: Harper & Row, 1975, 9).

Victoria Osteen, “I want to encourage every one of us to realize that when we obey God, we are not doing it for God, I mean that is one way to look at it.

We are doing it for ourselves... so I want you to know this morning just do good for your own self ... when you come to ... worship you are not doing it for God, you are doing it for your self...Amen.”



The carnal view of many “religious people” is completely out of hand: *“A number of Baptist bloggers who opposed Floyd linked to articles by the Associated Baptist Press about the church’s children ministry and a ‘fire truck’ baptistery. One article quoting Christianity Today, said, ‘The unique baptistery, created by Disney designer Bruce Barry, is part of a \$270,000 high tech project for the church’s children worship area which includes...*



“...video games, a light show, music videos and a bubble machine, according to Christianity Today. When a child is baptized in the fire-truck baptistery, sirens blare and confetti is fired out of cannons. ‘Putting a talking head in front of kids for an hour does not work,’ the children’s minister told the magazine...Floyd told Arkansas Baptist News that creative evangelism was needed to package the gospel ‘in ways the culture can understand and receive’” (Arkansas Times, p.4).



Our Identity In Christ

Confession

Proclamation

Fellowship

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