



Authority

**Submitting to and obeying authority is
central to godliness.**

**Therefore a proper understanding of who is
an authority is crucial to obeying God.**

All Authority Comes From God



■ God's Inherent Authority

- Psalm 24:1 *"A Psalm of David. The earth is the Lord's, and all its fullness, The world and those who dwell therein."*

■ Jesus Given All Authority

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

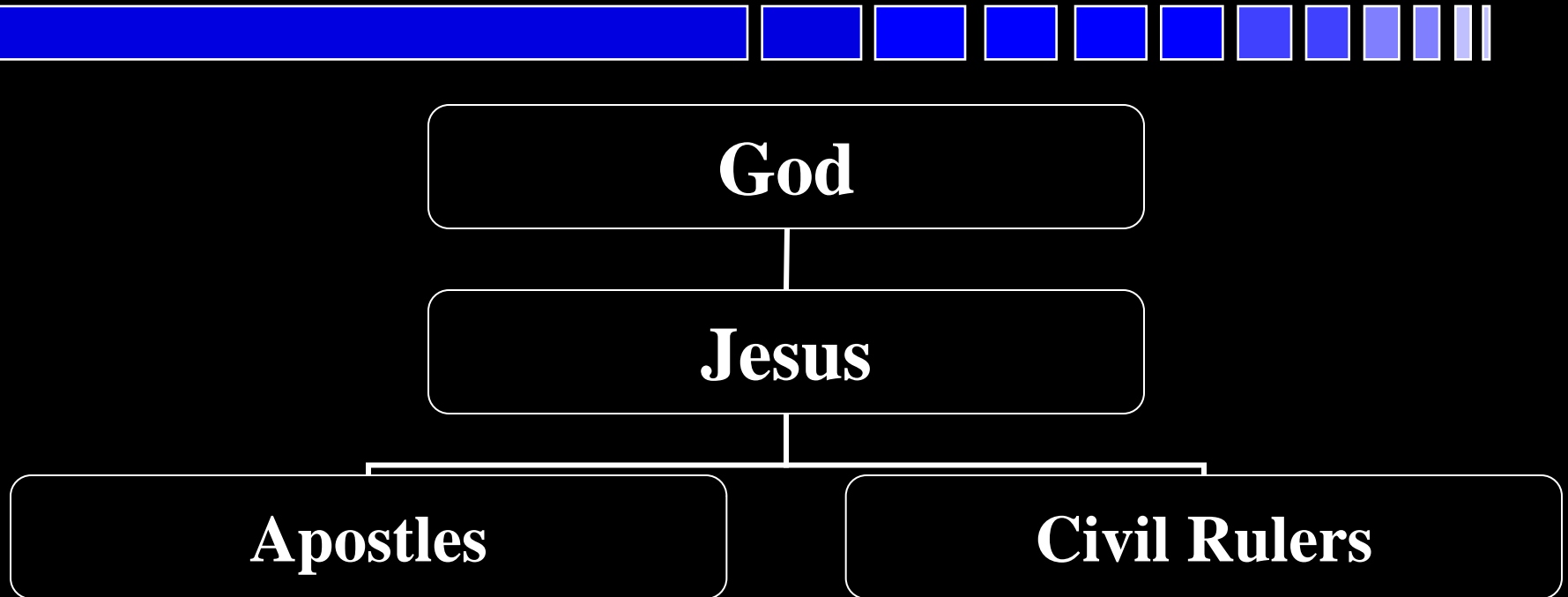
■ Authority Given to Apostles (Spiritual)

- Matthew 16:19 *"And I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven."*

■ Authority Given to Rulers (Civil)

- Romans 13:1 *"Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God."*
- Neither of these is appointed by the other nor can either change the others God-given responsibilities.

Authority Structure



- **John 13:20** *"Most assuredly, I say to you, he who receives whomever I send receives Me; and he who receives Me receives Him who sent Me."*
- **Titus 3:1** *"Remind them to be subject to rulers and authorities, to obey, to be ready for every good work,"*

Spiritual and Civil Authority



- In order to be obedient to God and Jesus we must obey both spiritual authorities and civil authorities.
- There are times both had rest upon one person
 - Melchizedek : Gen 14:18 " *Then Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine; he was the priest of God Most High.* "
 - Moses : Ex 18:16 " *When they have a difficulty, they come to me, and I judge between one and another; and I make known the statutes of God and His laws.* "

Spiritual and Civil Authority



- **More often the two authorities are different**
 - **Jeremiah 33:17-18** "“*For thus says the Lord: ‘David shall never lack a man to sit on the throne of the house of Israel; nor shall the priests, the Levites, lack a man to offer burnt offerings before Me, to kindle grain offerings, and to sacrifice continually.’*”“
 - **Hebrews 13:17** "“*Obey those who rule over you, and be submissive, for they watch out for your souls, as those who must give account. ...*”
 - **Romans 13:1** "“*Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God.*”

Either Might Abuse Their Authority

- **Pilate**
 - John 19:10-16
 - Matthew 27:24
- **Scribes & Pharisees**
 - Matthew 23:1-3
 - Matthew 15:1-9
- **Peter**
 - Galatians 2:11-13
- **Jewish Council exceeded their authority**
 - Acts 6:8-7:60; John 18:31
- **Our response if they lead us to disobey God?**
 - Acts 4:13-31
- **Yet we still ought not curse those who rule over us**
 - Exodus 22:28; Ecclesiastes 10:20; Acts 23:1-5