

ANNOUNCEMENTS**SEP 6, 2009****SICK LIST:**

HEALTHCARE CENTERS: Gertrude Hall, Bertharine Burton, Lottie Townley (Ridgeview, Rm 173), H.C. Brown (Ridgewood, Rm 119), J.D. Dailey (Ridgeview, Rm 171)

HOSPITAL: Maudie Jones (St. Vincent's, ICU)

HOME: Flora Millwood, Ruby Harrison, Freddie Alexander, Gloria Windham, Audie Estus, Paul Mays

PRAYER LIST: April Lazenby, Tommy Hollingsworth, David Ray, Amanda Rutledge, Kimberly Wilcox, Pat Cush, Emmitt Pendley, Fritz Pendley, Jerusha Key, Sonya Parnell, Michelle Howell, Anna Turner, Francis Rushing, Irene Palmer, Vera Fike, Sue Hinds, Virginia Nicholas, Harold Walton

AM SERMON - BEN WRIGHT - "WHO HAS THE AUTHORITY?"

PM SERMON - BEN WRIGHT - "GET TO WORK"

GOSPEL MEETING AT CURRY, SEP 20-23

SEE GENE OR LINDA FOR BIBLE CORRESPONDENCE COURSES

SEE DAVID FOR TAPES

BIRTHDAY:

Sep 10: Romaine Elliott & Randy Wood

12: Sue Lockhart

REMEMBER GBN ON DISH CH 9407 11 AM

THE WEST WALKER WELCOMER

WEST WALKER CHURCH OF CHRIST
26036 HIGHWAY 78
CARBON HILL, AL 35549
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TIMES OF SERVICES

SUNDAY MORNING

BIBLE CLASS 9:30

WORSHIP 10:20

SUNDAY EVENING 5:00

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY 7:00

ELDERS:

Gene McDonald 924-4827
Carlton Myers 221-0637
Neil Myers 924-9289
Bruce Windham 221-2348

DEACONS:

Danny Busby 387-0213
Jason Windham 384-1184
Randy Wood 221-2508

MINISTER:

Ben Wright 924-2376

WHO HAS THE AUTHORITY?
(Matthew 21:23-27)

I. _____ of each source of authority.

- A. Identification of heaven's authority follows a simple _____.
- B. John 12:49-50 - God's words were given to _____.
- C. John 17:8 - Jesus gave His words to the _____.
- D. John 16:7-15 - The Holy Spirit gave the apostles inspired _____ of the teachings of Christ.
- E. Ephesians 3:3-5 - those who read New Testament can read the _____ words of God.
- F. Identification of man's authority is a simple _____ as well.
 - 1. Once we understand heaven's authority is the New Testament, we can identify man's authority as anything _____ to, in _____ to or _____ than the Bible.
 - 2. This would include any new _____ to worship, errors concerning _____, _____, church _____ or any number of things.

II. _____ between the authority sources.

- A. Change in _____:
 - 1. Heaven's authority is immutable because it shares the character of its Author (Hebrews 13:8) - it is _____.
 - 2. Man's authority constantly changes - creeds and manuals need _____ and updating (Ephesians 4:14).
- B. _____ of the commands.
 - 1. Heaven's authority is _____ (2 Timothy 3:16-17) because nothing is missing (2 Peter 1:3), so why add to it?
 - 2. That man's authority is incomplete is shown by the fact that traditions held for centuries _____ or are eliminated.
- C. _____ of the commands.
 - 1. The New Testament comes from God and is free of _____ or inconsistency.
 - 2. Man's authority is full of error and _____ showing that it is uninspired.
- D. The _____ of the commands.
 - 1. God's authority is simple (Ephesians 3:4).
 - 2. Man's authority is _____ because it takes elaborate

explanations to reconcile the differences with scripture.

E. The unity resulting from the authority.

1. God's authority _____ wonderful unity for those that obey it (Ephesians 4:1-4).
2. Man's authority promotes _____, _____ and _____.

BECAUSE IT IS THE RIGHT THING TO DO

Patrick Morrison

Perhaps in response to constant questioning on your part, your parents at times likely responded to your inquiries as to why you had to do this or that with a "because I said so, that's why." As I was growing up, that line of reasoning seemed trite to me, and never fully answered my questions. However, now that I am a parent, I must say that such a reply is perfectly valid, and needs no further explanation. There are some things in the life that are good and right just because God said so. No explanation needed. No further discussion necessary. They are right just because they are right. I want to notice a couple of these things with you.

In writing to children, Paul states, "Children, obey your parents in the Lord: FOR THIS IS RIGHT" (Eph.6:1, emphasis mine, PM). Long before parents started using the "because-I-said-so-that's-why" line, God stated that it is simply the right thing for children to obey mom and dad. In a society where children in many households are calling the shots, both parents and offspring need this reminder of the divine order of authority in the home: God first ("in the Lord"), parents next ("children, obey your parents"), and children last. Some parents need to be reminded that God expects them to exercise authority in the home (see Gen.18:19), to order their children in the way of the Lord (Jud.13:12), to restrain and reprimand them (1 Sam.3:13), and to take every opportunity to teach them those things God declares to be good and right (Deut.6:1-7). Children, why should you obey your parents? Simply put, because God says so, because it is the right thing to do.

In the book of Romans, Paul (by inspiration) sets forth the glory of the gospel plan of salvation in the first eleven chapters of the epistle. Following this lengthy treatise on the power of the gospel, Paul writes, "I beseech you, therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, WHICH IS YOUR REASONABLE SERVICE" (Rom.12:1, emphasis mine, PM). The word here translated "reasonable" comes from the Greek *logikos*, from which we derive our English word "logical." After declaring all that God has done for us in bringing the glorious gospel to fruition in the giving of His Son, is it not logical then for us to offer ourselves in service to Him Who has given us all things freely to enjoy (Rom.8:32; 1 Tim.6:17)? Consider that

we are guilty of sin (Rom.3:23), and the rightful penalty for our sins is death (Rom.6:23). Through the grace of God, He sent His only begotten Son to serve as the propitiation for our sins (Rom.3:24), even while we were yet sinners (Rom.5:6-8). Because of His mercy, grace, and longsuffering, we have the opportunity to be justified before God through the blood of Jesus in obedience to His scheme of redemption (Rom.5:1). Every right-thinking individual should be moved to consecrate his life to the Lord's service, allowing himself to be molded by the word of God (Rom.12:1-2). Why should we do so? Simply put, because it is the logical conclusion of seeing all that God has done for us. It is the right thing to do!