

The Authority of the Scriptures: Lesson 2

The Authority of Christ

These were more noble...in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so. Acts 17:11

I. Jesus possesses all authority

- A. Jesus astonished His generations with His claims of authority (Mk.1:21-27/2:3-12)
- B. Jesus claimed that His authority was given to Him by the Father (John 5:26-27/Matt.28:18)
- C. The apostles taught that Jesus occupies the position of highest authority and has become Lord of all domains (Acts 2:33, 36/Eph.1:20-23/Phil.2:9-11/Rom.14:9)

II. It's all about Christ's Lordship

- A. To have Christ is to have eternal life (1 John 5:11-12)
- B. To have Christ is to have both a Savior and a Lord (Luke 2:11)
- C. Christ becomes my personal Savior at that moment that He becomes my personal Lord (Rom.10:9-10)

III. Obedience to Christ's words define Christian responsibility

- A. Loving Jesus (with the evidence of obeying Him) is essential (1 Cor.16:22/John 14:15, 21, 23)
- B. Christ's teachings are not for some other age than our own (1 Tim.6:2/1 John 2:3-4)
- C. The ultimate judgment will focus on obedience to His words (John 12:48/Matt.7:21-29)
- D. The path of discipleship is the path of obedience to Christ (John 8:31/Matt.28:19-20)
- E. Obedience is not optional (Luke 6:46/Acts 5:32/2 Cor.10:4-5/Heb.5:9/1 Pet.1:2)

Appendix: For further study...

I. Is discipleship optional?

- A. Christ not only calls us to "come unto" Him, but also to "come after" Him (Matt.11:28-30/16:24-26)
- B. The only definition of "Christian" in the Bible: Acts 11:26 (elsewhere in the Bible the word "Christian" is only found in Acts 26:28 and 1 Pet.4:16).

II. The costs and privileges of discipleship

- A. Only disciples are privy to God's secrets (Matt.13:10-11/see also Ps.25:14/Pr.3:32/Amos 3:7)
- B. Personal instruction is given to disciples (Mark 4:34)
- C. What privilege can the disciple count on when the training is complete? (Luke 6:40)
- D. What is the measure of a disciple's likeness to Christ? (John 13:34-35)
- E. What degree of commitment does it take to be a disciple? (Luke 14:25-33)