



A RELIABLE AUTHORITY

Whose Likeness and Inscription?

**Living on earth can be
very complicated.**

*“For our citizenship is in heaven,
from which also we eagerly wait for a
Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ...”*

(Philippians 3:20-21)

**We live under the authority
of Christ while on earth.**

**Physical authorities are in
defiance of Christ's authority.**

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Matthew 2 •

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Matthew 2 • Luke 23:2 •

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Matthew 2 • Luke 23:2 • Hebrews 10:32-34

Matthew 22:15-22

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- **Earthly Authorities are Approved and Established by God.**

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- **God's Authority is not Impeded by Earthly Governments.**

Matthew 22:15-22

- **Earthly Authorities are Approved and Established by God.**
- **God's Authority is not Impeded by Earthly Governments.**
- **Saints Must Determine Which Authority Must Apply When.**

Romans 13:1-7

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Obedience to the ordinance of civil government isn't a violation of God's will, but following it.

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Romans 13:1-7

The function of civil government is to maintain peace and justice according to God's will.

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I Peter 2:11-17

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I Peter 2:11-17

To overcome the slander
of the unbelieving world,
we act in submission to
our civil leaders.

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I Peter 2:11-17

Submitting ourselves to
the governing authorities
is an exercise of our freedom
in Christ.

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Titus 3:1-7

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Titus 3:1-7

Our consideration toward
the foolish among the
unsaved demands our
cooperation with authority.

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Titus 3:1-7

We don't cooperate with authority because they deserve it, but we didn't deserve salvation.

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Colossians 1:13-20

God's Authority is not Impeded by Earthly Governments.



Colossians 1:13-20

God, who is the Ultimate Authority placed us under the rule of Jesus Christ who is over all.

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Colossians 1:13-20

The head of the church has a place of authority that is above every human institution.

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Ephesians 1:18-23

"...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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Philippians 2:8-11

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Philippians 2:8-11

Jesus' obedience to the authority of the Father resulted in His being exalted to the highest place.

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Philippians 2:8-11

There is no being in any universe that will not, at some point, praise God's beloved Son.

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I Peter 3:22

"... who is at the right hand of God, having gone into heaven, after angels and authorities and powers had been subjected to Him."

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I Corinthians 15:20-28

God's Authority is not Impeded by Earthly Governments.



I Corinthians 15:20-28

Jesus' authority from God is so absolute that it even includes authority over death itself.

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I Corinthians 15:20-28

The only being in all existence not under Jesus' rule is the authorizing Father Himself.

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Acts 4:5-31

Saints Must Determine Which Authority Must Apply When.



Acts 4:5-31

The enemies of Jesus
threatened His authorized
disciples and commanded
them to disobey.

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Acts 4:5-31

The apostles were forced to make a distinction regarding which authority took precedence.

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Acts 4:5-31

The apostles prayed to God for a clarification of authority so that they might obey boldly.

Saints Must Determine Which Authority Must Apply When.



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Acts 4:5-31

Obedience to God was
choosing to side with the
higher authority without
fostering rebellion.

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Acts 5:12-32

Saints Must Determine Which Authority Must Apply When.



Acts 5:12-32

God's demonstration of power was an encouragement to His servants following His commands.

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Acts 5:12-32

Using physical pressure to stop the spread of the gospel, the leaders persecuted the apostles.

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Acts 5:12-32

The apostles not only acted within the superior authority of Christ, they preached it to others.

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Acts 5:12-32

Obedience to God was
the fundamental message
that the apostles preached
and modeled.

Saints Must Determine Which Authority Must Apply When.



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Applications...

Whose image and
inscription do *you* bear?

