

### Authority in Religion and Life Cont...

Now plug this definition into our passage (Colossians 3:17). The Holy Spirit here demands that everything we do or practice must be done by the authority of, at the behest of, with the permission of Jesus Christ. For any action or teaching to meet with God's approval, it must be the case that Christ, through His Word (Romans 10:17; 1 Corinthians 14:37) has either commanded that teaching or action, or He has otherwise given us the right or permission in the same regard. When we go onward [beyond] the teaching of Christ, we "go" alone, because when we proceed without the permission or authority of Christ, we "have not God" (2 John 9:11). We are citizens of the kingdom of God's dear Son, not a democracy. The authority or permission, whether to "do" or "say," has been granted by the King. It is not a thing to be trifled with.

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### WHERE DOES THE BLOOD OF CHRIST SAVE?

God's Son died and shed His blood, and this suffering is accepted by God as punishment for our sins, if we meet His conditions of Pardon. "But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities..." (Isa 53:5). It is because Jesus shed His blood that God pardons the sinner who obeys His will (Hebrews 5:8-9). But, where does the sinner reach the Saving power of the Blood of Christ?

The Bible says that redemption by the blood of Christ is in Christ (Eph 1:7; Colossians 1:14). Hence, no one can be saved by the blood of Christ out of Christ! It is not enough to tell people that the blood of Christ saves; we must also tell them with equal clarity where the blood of Christ saves, and how to reach the place where it saves!

To get into Christ where the blood of Christ saves, one must believe that Christ is the Savior (John 8:24). Those who thus believe must also repent of their sins, and then be baptized into Christ, where they can be saved by the blood of Christ.

"Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost." (Acts 2:38).

"Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life." (Romans 6:3-4)

One cannot reach the benefits of the death of Christ until he is baptized into His death. This is exactly why we urge people to obey the Gospel; We urge them to be baptized into Christ and in to His death. Baptism puts one into Christ, or into His body, which is His church (Ephesians 1:22-23; I Corinthians 12:13).

The same obedience that makes one a Christian at the same time makes one a member of the church of the New Testament. Gospel obedience will not make one a member of a denomination, but of the Lord's church. The blood saves in the body of Christ, His church.

📖 Basil Overton ~~~~~

## the church of CHRIST at Wasilla

meets at

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Wasilla, AK 99654

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[www.churchofchristwasilla.com](http://www.churchofchristwasilla.com)

Sunday	Wednesday	
Bible Class 10am	Bible Study	7:00 pm
Worship 11am		
Evening 6pm		

May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2014



"the gospel of Christ is the power of God unto salvation"  
Romans 1:16

### God's Plan of Salvation

- Hear.....Romans 10:17
- Believe.....Mark 16:16; Hebrews 11:1-6
- Repent.....Acts 2:38; II Corinthians 7:10
- Confess.....Romans 10:9, 10; Mt. 10:32,33
- Be Baptized.....Mark 16:16; Acts 22:16
- Arise & walk in newness of life.....Romans 6:4

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## AUTHORITY IN RELIGION AND LIFE

Moral and civil decay and disorder are all about us. There exists now, more than at any time in my life, a tremendous disdain for authority. I fear that we're only now seeing the "*tip of the ice-berg*." On the pages of human history is written the sad story of man's refusal to respect authority and the consequences thereof. It started with Adam and Eve. The firstborn, Cain, followed suit. When it came time to offer sacrifice, Cain was not to be bothered by details. A sacrifice is a sacrifice you know. As long as you're "*religious*," the details don't particularly matter. God didn't see it that way: "*But unto Cain and to his offering he had not respect. And Cain was very wroth, and his countenance fell*" (Genesis 4:5). God did have "*respect*" unto Abel's offering, because "*by faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain*" (Hebrews 11:4). Abel did what he did "*by faith*," and "*faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God*" (Romans 10:17). It was all a matter of authority, doing things according to God's word or following some other "*authority*."

Webster says that authority is the "*power or right to give commands, enforce obedience, take action, or make final decisions, jurisdiction*." In the New Testament, it is said that "*all authority, on earth, as well as in heaven*" was given to Christ (Matthew 28:18). It is further said that Jesus delegated certain authority to His apostles (Luke 9:1). Paul spoke of the "*authority which the Lord gave me*" (2 Corinthians 13:10). Until a person recognizes and understands this matter of biblical authority, he simply cannot "*get off the ground*" in his effort to serve and please God.

Notice a passage that places man under the absolute obligation to recognize and abide by, to do all things by the authority of Jesus Christ. Jesus possesses "*all authority*," and furthermore, "*all things*" are under "*his feet*." He is the "*head over all things*" (Ephesians 1:22). Now ask, "*How does this relate to us?*" Paul answers by saying, "*And whatsoever ye do in word or in deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him*" (Colossians 3:17). This passage encompasses the totality of our lives, worship, and service. It applies to "*whatsoever ye do*," leaving nothing out. It has particular application to our very "*words*" and "*deeds*." Words has reference to the things we say or teach; and, deeds speak of the things we do our actions or practices. Surely there is a deficiency in our teaching and understanding of the absolute authority King Jesus is to have in our lives. This is why the Scriptures say that in order to become a Christian one must "*confess with [the] mouth the Lord Jesus*" (Romans 10:10).

Finally, it should be emphasized that Paul said that all our "*words*" and "*deeds*" must be said or done "*in the name of the Lord Jesus*." This phrase— "*In the name of the Lord Jesus*"— is a qualifying, adverbial phrase. If I say, "*Do something quickly*," we all understand that the adverb quickly modifies the main action, do. Doing something "*in the name of the Lord Jesus*" does not mean that we first verbally utter the words, "*Lord Jesus*." That would pretty well be a physical impossibility. Also note that Jesus himself said "*Not everyone that saith unto me Lord, Lord, shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he that doeth the will of my Father*" (Matthew 7:21). No. the idea of doing things in the name of the

Lord has a far-reaching meaning: It tells how or in what manner we are to do and say all things.

It is always good to let the Bible define its own terms. In Acts 4, Peter and John have just been arrested by jealous Jewish authorities. Peter, an apostle, had healed a man who had been lame for forty years. This had been done in the presence of multitudes of people, who in turn gave attention to the preaching of these Apostles. They were then "*hauled into court*" and questioned about the affair. In verse 7, the rulers said, "*By what power, or in whose name, have ye done this?*" The word "*power*" is another word for "*authority*"; in fact, in the original tongue, it is the exact word that is translated "*authority*" in other places. They were asking Peter and John "*By what right, what authority are you doing these things?*"; in other words, "*In whose name?*" Peter promptly responded by saying these things had been done "*in the name of Jesus Christ*." In fact Peter sums up the whole matter by saying, "*And in none other name is there salvation; for neither is there any other name under heaven, that is given among men, wherein we must be saved*" (Acts 4:10-12). There you have it. To say a thing is done or said "*in the name of the Lord Jesus*" is the same as saying that it was done or said "*by his authority or power*."

Cont. on Back...

### Our Family News

**Preaching This Morning:** Bill Bebee

**Traveling:** Hans Nicholson, Abby & Joseph McAfee

**Please Pray For:** Linda Workman, Walt Gilfilen undergoing chemo treatments.

**We need remember:** Away working, the church & the lost.

**Moving to Wasilla:** Whitney Sharp is moving to Wasilla on June 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**Potluck:** If you are willing to host May or June potluck, contact Ed Maxwell.

**Coffee At Sam's:** Tuesday May 20<sup>th</sup> at 8 A.M.

**Radio Program:** Listen to "Searching the Scriptures", our weekly radio program, Sundays at 9am, on 100.9 FM, hosted by Sam Carman.

**Today's Scripture:** "Jesus answered him, I spake openly to the world; I ever taught in the synagogue, and in the temple, whither the Jews always resort; and in secret have I said nothing." **John 18:20** (KJV)

**Today's Proverb:** "Be not thou envious against evil men, neither desire to be with them." **Pro.24:1** (KJV)

**Attendance last Sunday: 75**

Please update us concerning those on the prayer list.

**Thank You**