

The Breaking Down of Authority

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Introduction

*II Timothy 3:1-5 “This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; Having a form of godliness, but **denying the power thereof**: from such turn away.”*

Those eternally inspired words were first copied out on earth about two-thousand years ago. Yet in that passage from God’s Word; we are given a Scriptural description, and a spiritual dissection of the world in which we live as it is right now.

The “**...power...**” said to be *denied* by that group of rebels and reprobates; is the “**...power...**” of the Authority of God Himself. Those characteristics are rampant in the practices of the lost of this world; but God wrote those words to warn us of what will be taking

place in some of His kind of Baptist Churches in these last days. Those words are to be used to identify people professing to be saved; but they refuse to live under The Authority of God's written Word. It is a shame and a disgrace for such descriptive terms to have to be used in conjunction with people in our own kind of Independent, Fundamental Baptist Churches. But this is what those of us, who are holding to the old paths, are witnessing right now. The Lord Jesus deserves much better than that from the lives of those whom He has saved from Hell!

In this simple booklet; I want to point out some ways God's separated Baptist people, can keep authority, respect, and dignity among us; as we seek to bring our little ones up to serve The Lord.

But to set the mind and heart to receive this in a practical way; I first want to point out some strong and mitigating reasons, for why it is that some in our kind of Baptist Churches, lack a fuller understanding for the need to practice principles of true, Biblical, Scriptural Authority.

In *Ephesians 6:12*, we are told that there are evil forces at work which are seen only by what they produce in the world.

*“For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against **principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.**”*

The devil and his human cohorts in this world are constantly pushing their agenda of the breaking down of all good authority. Satan’s goal since his fall, has been the destroying of all God ordained and delegated authority. It is evident that he has achieved many aspects of this spiritually wicked battle, in the realm of human governments. He has also gained control over the man-made religious systems of this world. His final assault in these “**...last days...**” is the infiltration and covert corruption of authority in our Independent, Fundamental, Baptist Churches. Satan has already corrupted a large majority of the population of this country; when it comes to their understanding of

authority. But the influence of these seeds of anarchy have been now carried over into the thinking and the practice of many saved people. There are Americans in Baptist Churches, professing to have received Jesus as Lord; but they have refused His inspired commands to stay separate from this world. These are “...**denying the power ...**” of God’s Word.

*II Corinthians 6:17-18 “Wherefore **come out** from among them, and **be ye separate**, saith **the Lord**, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty.”*

When saved, Independent Baptist people, live too close to the ways of this world; their good ways will not change those in the world; but they will become like the world!

The Influence of the Bad Example of Authority in America

America has become a terrible testimony of the breaking down of the power of authority. This is being witnessed in the federal government and at state levels. The Constitution of The United States is supposed to be the document for the defining of all authority in this country. In the realm of human affairs; The Constitution is to be the basis of all law; used for the determining of what is right and what is wrong; without respect for personal interpretations of its wording.

Because some of the people appointed to The Supreme Court, have violated one of the first principles of Justice being blind and unbiased; the authority and power of many parts of The U.S. Constitution have been made void. The use of those two-hundred and forty-year-old words have been modified, mutated, mutilated, and maimed; by private agendas, special interest groups, and for the soothing of the consciences of those involved in physical, social, and national sins. From what is

supposed to be the loftiest court of this land; many of the meanings of the words of The Constitution, have been lowered by immoral manipulation, and perverted interpretation, into being used for things of which were never intended by its creating authors. The Constitution, has in-essence, lost much of its power in being the main governing factor, in the laws of The United States of America. What should still be the American's mandate for justice; is now being denied by many who have sworn to protect and uphold it!

Because of this breakdown of those foundational tenants of authority in government; many other areas of American life have been seemingly, irreparably damaged. We are watching these destructive consequences being revealed in law enforcement, court systems, commerce, state interfering with church issues, and the invasion of illegal aliens. This decay is also known to be rampantly out of control in the system of public grade schools, secular colleges, and universities. It has aided in the disgrace of the open degradation and deprivation of the morals of society concerning promiscuity, pornography, and political correctness

which refuses to accept their Creators Holy, written definition of marriage; as being only between a male and a female!

All these things have hurt many, many people, from all walks of life. The progressive condoning of lawlessness, immorality and ungodliness, has been the underlying destruction of the American home; and that effects every American; including those who have been born again!

There is now a generation who live and seek the benefits from this country; who call themselves Americans; but they no longer know America for what it was at its beginning. These now openly *deny the power* of what is to be an American's basis for authority. Because of being taught the lies of a twisted, unauthorized definition of a reconstituted America; those of us who still attempt to hold to those old, good, original foundational principles; are now deemed to be the ones who are labeled as being un-American!

Apply this to The Saved

God has warned us in *Romans 12:2*, not to be “...*conformed to this world*...” The ways of this world are to be intentionally avoided by we who are born again. Because we as saved people are subject to live in this land; we must be aware of the potential influence of these “...*rudiments of the world*...” These things can and do touch all of us. Some more than others; but the effect; good or bad; even if not fully understood; will be felt by all.

The only way not to be influenced by this wave of the wickedness of this world; is for those whom The Lord has redeemed; to see the necessity to seek and to stay under the Authority of God’s Written Word. The Bible was written, inspired, and every word preserved by Its Creator; to be our Only Governing Document! If the saved do not seek to keep and to practice every word of The Bible; as written by God; they will bring the practices and attitudes of this world into their lives and into The Lord’s Baptist Churches.

As Americans; we have a document called the *Bill of Rights*. As Christians; the Doctrine in God's Book is the believers ***Bill of Responsibilities***.

Because The Saviour died in our place; He deserves the right to be allowed to control our lives! In so many ways; the push for Americans being so focused on their governmental rights; has caused many to neglect their God-given responsibilities! This same attitude has corrupted the minds of many of the saved!

There are many professing to be saved; who, rightly so, disagree with those in this land who do not follow The Constitution. It is extremely frustrating having to listen to those who do not hold to the Founders words for governing. Yet, many of these professors of being saved, have imposed their own private interpretations and agendas concerning the wording and practice of Bible Doctrine. Some of this may be due to not having studied enough; but much of it is in-order to justify a lack of respect for the Only Written Document of Heaven's Land! Doing that is no better than a judge or politician saying he or she will uphold The Constitution; but they

seek to interpret its words according their own ideas! In fact; any professing Christian who does such a wicked thing concerning The Bible, is far more despicable than a corrupt politician!

As the *politically correct liberals* of The Supreme Court have mutilated the words of The Constitution; so it is, that *theologically incorrect liberals*, have done the same in open disrespect for the inspired words of the written Law of God!

Changes in the Practice of the Respect for Human Authority

Because of the diminishing levels of respect for authority, which is so prevalent in the attitudes of Americans in general; it causes the potential for the minds of believers to be corrupted in issues of authority. Take the example of the Office of The President of The United States. For the last eight years, we often saw pictures and videos of a president not wearing a tie or suit jacket in public settings. That may seem trivial to some; but it diminishes the position of a world leader. The highest American Governing Office is deserving of the highest example of human authority. As with the military; a uniform makes a powerful statement to others, no matter who is wearing it at the time. The uniform represents a person who has left his or her civilian status as an American; and is committed to serve a cause much higher than the person wearing the uniform. An elected Commander-in-Chief ought not conduct himself; or appear as just another American!

The misunderstanding of that last statement will be proof of the negative influences of which I am speaking about. When the person in the highest American office does not hold to old-fashioned principles of authority; it is no wonder when the rest of the government *officials* do not conduct themselves as respectable authorities.

Not only is this attack on respect for authority seen in government; but in the American home. It is now common for a mother or father to be called by their first names by their own children. That shows a lack of respect for the authorities God gave them at birth.

I fully understand that many lost government officials and the unsaved parents of this land have trashed their right to be respected by their own wrong doings. But that is no excuse to throw out the respect for authority! Just because those in authority in this world will continue to become more corrupt; does not mean those of us who are saved should disrespect proper authority. This bad influence is being witnessed by those paying attention.

Many of the saved in the younger generations, are practicing and allowing some things which to them may seem innocent. They may not be doing these things out of rebellion. They have grown up around some subtle changes with respect for authority, and do not seem to see the negative influences recognized by us who have been around longer. Some of the things I will mention will seem unimportant and even irrelevant to them. As you read this; if that describes your present way of thinking; please approach this next section with a heart asking God's Holy Spirit to teach you what He wants you to gain from this.

The Subtilty of Satan's Breaking down of Authority

Because Satan has moved *religious baptist liberals* to get out from under God's Authority; just as with the effect *liberal politicians* have had on Americans; Baptist Christians are being influenced toward more and more worldliness of attitude and actions, when it comes to this breaking down of authority.

*II Corinthians 11:3 "But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his **subtilty**, so your minds should be corrupted from the **simplicity** that is in Christ."*

Satan has used his *"...**subtilty**..."* to slowly influence the strongest of the saved to fall into his ways. That word speaks of a deliberate finesse in the infiltrating of evil into the things of God.

On the other hand; God has told us that with The Lord there is *"...**simplicity**..."* While we as Baptists were

supposed to stay with the old ways of “*...simplicity...*” the devil has been slowly working, up to these “*...last days...*” to be able to bring his full assault upon those who are supposed to be the best of the best of the believers!

This can apply to this very subject. There was a day not long ago when some simple things were practiced to show respect for authority.

We are the ones God commissioned to proclaim His Authority throughout the whole world, beginning with The Gospel. The Lord is to be The Only Authority in His kind of Baptist Churches; and in the individual lives of the saved. The Lord is to be The Only Authority in our Christian homes. Every saved person; child or adult; is supposed to be respectful of “*...the power...*” of God’s Authority. This must be purposely taught, or the world will step into our homes and be brought into our churches.

God’s People can Avoid Falling into the Worlds Attitudes about Authority

Respect for authority among Independent, Fundamental, Separated Baptists has got to begin when a child is young. Correcting a generation which has already been corrupted in this is not easy, but it can be accomplished by some very simple things being put into practice.

Here are some practical things for the saved to consider in this matter of not being contributors to The Breaking Down of Authority. Please ask The Holy Spirit to apply these simple principles to yourself, your home, your children and your relationships in this world. But most of all this needs to be taught, upheld, and practiced in the Independent, Fundamental, Baptist Church of your membership. Please do not just write these things off as nonessentials. The things which Satan has helped *baptist liberals* to deem as nonessential; are the very thing he will use to begin to destroy the Authority of God's Book and in in The Lord's faithful Baptist Churches.

I will simply list some things in the light of the comparative examples that have been given. These to

some will seem old-fashioned. They are meant to be so! These must be emphasized by this present generation of Baptists; and passed on to the next generation of Bible practicing Christians.

Building Basics for Keeping Proper Attitudes of Authority

1. Children should be taught to face and look at the eyes of adults who speak to them.
2. Children should be taught as soon as they can speak to answer all instructions and questions with an authoritative “Yes Sir,” or “No Sir,” “Yes Mam,” or “No Mam.”
3. When asked a question by an adult, children need to look at the one asking and give a verbal, spoken response; never a huh, a sigh or a shrugged shoulder.
4. If they do not know an answer; or do not understand an instruction or question; they should be taught to say, “I do not know,” or “I do not understand.”
5. Children must be taught never to interrupt an adult when they are speaking to another person; but continue to look at them until that conversation is done; and then say “excuse me.”

6. Children must be taught not to use the first name of an adult; but say Mr. ____, Mrs. ____ Or Miss ____, Brother ____, or Sister ____ with their last names.
7. Children should never address their parents by their first name.
8. Grandparents should be given the respect of being called as Grandparents by use of a family's words for Grandfather and Grandmother with their last names.
9. Children must be taught to address Pastors by their God Ordained title and with their last name; never by their first name.
10. Assistants to the Pastor should be called "Brother," and use only their last name."
11. Evangelists could be called by use of "Preacher," or "Brother" followed by their Last Name.
12. Christian School Administrators, Teachers and Workers must be called by their appropriate title and last names only.

13. Sunday School Teachers, or Bus Workers should be called by "Brother," "Sister," with their last name.
14. Teach the children the importance of dressing up for Church! Church is not a ballgame! It is a time to show respect for The Lord in every way possible! Let the worldly-Laodicean-baptists dress down. We have a much higher calling and purpose than some liberal, Bible denying, disrespectful, worldly-baptist.

Teach a child, that to dress-up specifically for Church; gives them a way to show respect for the authority of The Lord's House. Teach them the respect it shows to put on some dress clothes in honour for The Saviour. Doing so takes a little bit more time and money; but it shows that Church is important enough for us to do our best! This will generate respect born in the heart which says, "I am not at leisure here, or at play; I am going to Church because The Lord has got something for me to receive at His House."

This will build an attitude in a child (Or Adult) that says, "I am now going to be part of the most important assembly on this planet; Jesus shed His own blood to purchase The Baptist Church I am going to attend. I must show my respect by my attitude and by my appearance."

Respect for Authority Must Start at the Top

It is disturbing to hear this new-age of fundamental baptists calling their pastors by their first names. That is contributing to the breaking down of authority at the highest level! As far as The Lord's Baptist Churches; the Office of Pastor is the highest position on this planet. I understand that many in that Office have brought shame and reproach to it. But that is no excuse to show disrespect for those who are standing faithful, to their Holy Ghost called, Scripturally authorized and ordained Office. A Pastor diminishes his God-Ordained position when he does not teach these things. Yes, he is a sinner saved by grace just like the rest of the redeemed; but he has been called; he has surrendered to serve The Lord; and he has been Scripturally ordained into an Office created by God. No man in this Office has the right to lessen the perceived or real authority of his Office. This is a

terrible trend toward what the apostate religions; and liberal Laodicean baptists of this present world are fast becoming.

Please take the time to give this some serious thought and application to you, your family; and as a member of one of The Lord's Baptist Churches. Take these simple things to prayer before The Lord. Search The Scriptures to understand their validity. Ask The Holy Spirit in you to guide you into the truth of these things. If not for yourself; do so for the next generation of Independent Baptist people.

II Timothy 3:1-5 "This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away."

We had better face it! This world and its influence to diminish authority in our kind of Baptist Churches is not going to lessen! It is going to increase.

*II Timothy 3:12-15 "Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution. But evil men and seducers **shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived.** But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned them **And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures,** which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus."*