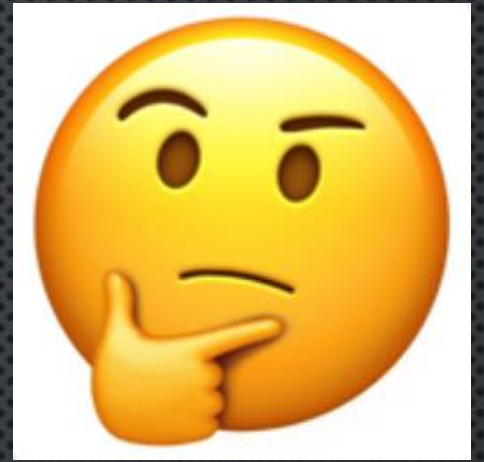


HOW TO DETERMINE WHAT
THE BIBLE/GOD HAS
AUTHORIZED?

AGENDA



- DETERMINING WHAT GOD WANTS VS WHAT YOUR JOB REQUIRES VS, THE LAWS OF THE LAND REQUIRE VS ANYTHING ELSE ARE ALL THE SAME PRINCIPLES
- THE BASIC PRINCIPLES (COMMAND, EXAMPLES, NECESSARY INFERENCE)
- SILENCE OF THE SCRIPTURE
- INCIDENTALS
- EXPEDIENCY
- ORDER OF PRECEDENCE

NOTE: Key assumption for this material is that the Bible is God's Word and He is the authority

DETERMINING WHAT GOD WANTS VS WHAT YOUR JOB REQUIRES VS THE LAWS OF THE LAND REQUIRE VS ANYTHING ELSE ARE THE SAME PRINCIPLES

- YOUR JOB: MUST BE IN THE OFFICE 3 DAYS/WEEK
- SPEED LIMIT IS 70MPH
- EVERYDAY EXAMPLES ARE COUNTLESS, AND WE ACCEPT
- WHY IS THE BIBLE HARD TO INTERPRET?



Note: The Bible is truly unique, from God and deserves to be respected.

REMINDER: SIN IS LAWLESSNESS

- 1Jn 3:4 NASB EVERYONE WHO PRACTICES SIN ALSO PRACTICES LAWLESSNESS; AND SIN IS LAWLESSNESS.
- MAT 7:23 NASB "AND THEN I WILL DECLARE TO THEM, 'I NEVER KNEW YOU; DEPART FROM ME, YOU WHO PRACTICE LAWLESSNESS.'
- COL 3:17 NASB WHATEVER YOU DO IN WORD OR DEED, DO ALL IN THE NAME OF THE LORD JESUS, GIVING THANKS THROUGH HIM TO GOD THE FATHER.
- 1Co 10:31 NASB WHETHER, THEN, YOU EAT OR DRINK OR WHATEVER YOU DO, DO ALL TO THE GLORY OF GOD.

- BOTTOM-LINE: DOING SOMETHING THAT GOD HAS NOT AUTHORIZED COMES WITH CONSEQUENCES

THE BASIC PRINCIPLES

(DIRECT COMMAND, APPROVED EXAMPLES, NECESSARY
INFERENCE, SILENCE OF SCRIPTURE)

DIRECT COMMANDS

SPECIFIC COMMANDS

- GEN 6:13-16
- MARK 16:15-16, MATT 28:18-20
- JOHN 13:34
- MATT 22:37-38
- EPH 4:25-5:11

GENERAL COMMANDS

- MARK 16:15-16, MATT 28:18-20
- ROM 12:9-21
- COL 3:17
- NOTE: COMMANDS OFTEN HAVE A GENERIC PART AND A SPECIFIC PART

GENERIC COMMANDS

- THE CHOICE MADE
 - CANNOT ADD TO THE COMMAND
 - CANNOT TAKE AWAY FROM THE COMMAND
 - CANNOT CHANGE THE COMMAND
- REJECTING ONE OPTION OVER ANOTHER
 - CANNOT ADD TO THE COMMAND
 - CANNOT TAKE AWAY FROM THE COMMAND
 - CANNOT CHANGE THE COMMAND
- IT THE OPTION DOES EITHER OF THESE THEN IT IS NOT AN OPTION OF GENERIC AUTHORITY.

QUESTIONS

- AT WORK, IF LAST MONTH YOU DID NOT COME INTO THE OFFICE 3 DAYS EVERY, WHAT HAPPENS?
- THE SPEED LIMIT IS 70, BUT YOU DRIVE 75 WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?
- IF YOU BELIEVE IN GOD, TRUST IN GOD, LOVE GOD BUT YOU TELL LITTLE WHITE LIES ALL THE TIME, WHAT SHOULD YOU DO?
- GIVEN COL 3:17, DO YOU MAKE SURE WE HAVE AUTHORITY FOR ERVERYTHING WE DO? WHAT CAN EASILY HAPPEN?

APPROVED EXAMPLES

- AN EXAMPLE WHERE PEOPLE ARE DOING SOMETHING THAT GOD APPROVES OF.
- PHP 3:17 NASB BRETHREN, JOIN IN FOLLOWING MY EXAMPLE, AND OBSERVE THOSE WHO WALK ACCORDING TO THE PATTERN YOU HAVE IN US.
- 1PE 2:21-22 FOR YOU HAVE BEEN CALLED FOR THIS PURPOSE, SINCE CHRIST ALSO SUFFERED FOR YOU, LEAVING YOU AN EXAMPLE FOR YOU TO FOLLOW IN HIS STEPS,
- ACTS 20:7 – APPROVED EXAMPLE
- 1 COR 11:17-22 – NOT APPROVED
- GAL 2:11-13 – PETER’S EXAMPLE IS NOT APPROVED
- ARE EXAMPLES BINDING? DO YOU HAVE TO MIMIC EVERY EXAMPLE?

NECESSARY INFERENCE

- DEFINITION - THE ACT OR PROCESS OF DERIVING LOGICAL CONCLUSIONS FROM PREMISES KNOWN OR ASSUMED TO BE TRUE. THE ACT OF REASONING FROM FACTUAL KNOWLEDGE OR EVIDENCE
 - IT IS SIMPLY A REQUIRED CONCLUSION REACHED BASED ON THE FACTS.
 - A DETECTIVE PUTS ALL THE FACTS TOGETHER TO DETERMINE WHO COMMITTED THE MURDER.
- CONSIDER MATT 22:23-33
- CONSIDER MATT 11:2-6
- RANDY'S EMAIL FROM JAN 4 2:39PM PROVIDES SOME GOOD INFO ON THIS TOPIC

QUESTIONS

- WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A NECESSARY INFERENCE VS JUST AN INFERENCE?
- WHAT IS THE CHALLENGE WITH UNDERSTANDING INFERENCES?
- IS IT POSSIBLE TO DO SOMETHING GOD AUTHORIZES AND STILL SIN?
- CAN ONE SIN AND NOT KNOW IT? WHAT SHOULD ONE DO WHEN THEY FIND THEY DID THIS?

THINGS TO REMEMBER

- PSA 119:160 NASB THE SUM OF YOUR WORD IS TRUTH, AND EVERY ONE OF YOUR RIGHTEOUS ORDINANCES IS EVERLASTING.
- THINGS SPECIFIED EXCLUDE ALL POSSIBILITIES UNLESS SPECIFIED IN ADDITIONAL VERSES.
- GENERAL COMMANDS PROVIDE OPTIONS FOR US TO CHOOSE. ONE PERSON'S CHOICE MAY DIFFER FROM ANOTHER AND WE CANNOT ASSERT THEY ARE SINNING BY THE CHOICE THEY MADE
- WE NEED TO BELIEVE OUR ACTIONS ARE AUTHORIZED BEFORE WE DO THEM
- DEU 4:2 NASB "YOU SHALL NOT ADD TO THE WORD WHICH I AM COMMANDING YOU, NOR TAKE AWAY FROM IT, THAT YOU MAY KEEP THE COMMANDMENTS OF THE LORD YOUR GOD WHICH I COMMAND YOU. SEE ALSO REV 22:18-19, 2 JOHN 9, 1 COR 4:6
- MATT 7:21-23 – THERE ARE SEVERE CONSEQUENCES TO DISOBEDIENCE
- LUK 17:10 NASB "SO YOU TOO, WHEN YOU DO ALL THE THINGS WHICH ARE COMMANDED YOU, SAY, 'WE ARE UNWORTHY SLAVES; WE HAVE DONE ONLY THAT WHICH WE OUGHT TO HAVE DONE.'"

ADDITIONAL PRINCIPLES

(SILENCE OF SCRIPTURE, INCIDENTALS, EXPEDIENCY,
ORDER OF PRECEDENCE)

SILENCE OF THE SCRIPTURE



- HOW MANY TIMES HAVE YOU HEARD, "THE BIBLE DOES NOT SAY YOU CANNOT DO ____"
- HEB 7:14 - FOR IT IS CLEAR THAT OUR LORD IS DESCENDED FROM JUDAH, YET MOSES SAID NOTHING ABOUT PRIESTS IN CONNECTION WITH THAT TRIBE. HEB 7:14 (NET)
- ACTS 15:25 - SINCE WE HAVE HEARD THAT SOME HAVE GONE OUT FROM AMONG US WITH NO ORDERS FROM US AND HAVE CONFUSED YOU, UPSETTING YOUR MINDS BY WHAT THEY SAID,
- 1 CHR 17:6 - WHEREVER I MOVED THROUGHOUT ISRAEL, I DID NOT SAY TO ANY OF THE LEADERS WHOM I APPOINTED TO CARE FOR MY PEOPLE ISRAEL, 'WHY HAVE YOU NOT BUILT ME A HOUSE MADE FROM CEDAR?'""
- HEB 1:5 (NASB) - FOR TO WHICH OF THE ANGELS DID HE EVER SAY, "YOU ARE MY SON, TODAY I HAVE BEGOTTEN YOU"? AND AGAIN, "I WILL BE A FATHER TO HIM AND HE SHALL BE A SON TO ME"?
- WITHOUT EXPLICIT OR IMPLICIT AUTHORITY TO DO _____, IT IS NOT ALLOWED. WHERE THE BIBLE IS SILENT, WE MUST BE SILENT (I.E. NOT DO IT)

INCIDENTALS

- DEFINITION: A. RELATED OR ACCOMPANYING: RELATED TO OR ACCOMPANYING SOMETHING MORE IMPORTANT B. OCCURRING BY CHANCE: OCCURRING BY CHANCE OR WITHOUT INTENTION C. OCCASIONAL: UNIMPORTANT OR OCCASIONAL
- INCIDENTALS ARE NOT BINDING.
- CONSIDER ACTS 20:7, LUKE 22:12 – PAUL PREACHED TILL MIDNIGHT, THEY MET IN AN UPPER ROOM
- ARE WE REQUIRED TO MEET IN AN UPPER ROOM ON SUNDAY OR TO TAKE THE LORD'S SUPPER IN AN UPPER ROOM? ARE SUNDAY SERMONS REQUIRED TO LAST TILL MIDNIGHT?

EXPEDIENCY

- DEFINITION: A. APPROPRIATE: APPROPRIATE, ADVISABLE, OR USEFUL IN A SITUATION THAT REQUIRES ACTION B. ADVANTAGEOUS: ADVANTAGEOUS FOR PRACTICAL RATHER THAN MORAL REASONS C. SOMETHING ACHIEVING OBJECTIVES QUICKLY: SOMETHING DONE OR A METHOD USED TO ACHIEVE AN OBJECTIVE QUICKLY, REGARDLESS OF WHETHER IT IS FAIR, RIGHT, OR WISE IN THE LONG TERM
- MANY ITEMS THAT ARE EXPEDIENT HELP US OBEY COMMANDS: PEWS, SONG BOOKS, A WALL CLOCK, WHITEBOARDS, PROJECTORS, WADERS/BAPTISMAL GARMENTS, COPIER, ADVERTISING, ETC.
- THESE ARE AIDS. THEY FALL UNDER GENERIC AUTHORITY. WE CAN COMPLETE THE COMMAND WITH OR WITHOUT THESE ITEMS.
- AIDS/EXPEDIENT ITEMS CANNOT CHANGE THE COMMANDS (ADD TO OR TAKE AWAY FROM)

QUESTIONS

- WHAT ABOUT BATHROOMS OR WATER FOUNTAINS?
- WHAT ABOUT COKE MACHINES OR COFFEE MAKERS?
- WHAT ABOUT A STARBUCKS OR A CHRISTIAN BOOKSTORE IN THE BUILDING?
- IN THE LORD'S SUPPER IS A PHYSICAL CUP SIGNIFICANT OR IS IT AN EXPEDIENCY?

ORDER OF PRECEDENCE

- THINK OF “ORDER OF PRECEDENCE” IN MATHEMATICS
 - Is $3+3/3+1 \times (2+3) =$ TO 7 OR 9 OR 15 OR 20?
- ONE MUST USE ALL PASSAGES ON A TOPIC TO DETERMINE TRUTH (ROM 10:9, ROM 10:13, ACTS 2:38)
- CONTEXT OF A PASSAGES MUST BE INCLUDED (EX. OT VS NT)
- CLEAR PASSAGES MUST INFORM THE VAGUE OR SYMBOLIC PASSAGES – NOT THE OTHER WAY AROUND
- FACTS OR NECESSARY INFERENCES MUST BE USED OVER INFERENCES
- DO NOT LET INCIDENTAL DETAILS CLOUD YOUR REASONING
- IGNORE THE “NOISE” OR MATTERS OR JUDGEMENT. FIND THE ESSENTIAL FACTS. MORE OF A PROBLEM IN UNDERSTAND LIFE EVENTS RATHER THAN SCRIPTURE

QUESTIONS

- WHAT IS THE PROBLEM WITH PUTTING INFORMATION TOGETHER IN THE WRONG ORDER?
- HOW DO YOU KNOW IF YOU HAVE IT IN THE RIGHT ORDER?
- HOW DOES PRAYER RELATE TO BIBLE STUDY?
- DO YOU PRAY FOR WISDOM AND/OR UNDERSTANDING?
- WHAT DO WE KNOW ABOUT GOD AS AN AUTHOR? SO, WHAT DOES THIS TELL US?

WHY DO WE STRUGGLE TO UNDERSTAND GOD'S WORD?

- READ JOHN 7:1- 24
- EMOTIONS, CULTURE, UP-BRINGING CAN CLOUD YOUR JUDGEMENT
- PEOPLE HAVE DIFFERENT TALENTS AND THEY UNDERSTAND CONCEPTS AT DIFFERENT RATES. BE PATIENT & RESPECTFUL
- TANGENT: DID JESUS LIE IN JOHN 7:8?

CONCLUSION

- THE BASIC PRINCIPLES (COMMAND, EXAMPLES, NECESSARY INFERENCE)
- ADDITIONAL PRINCIPLES (SILENCE OF THE SCRIPTURE, INCIDENTALS, EXPEDIENCY, & ORDER OF PRECEDENCE)
- WE MUST APPLY ALL OF THESE ALL THE TIME
- THE SUM OF GOD'S WORD IS TRUTH
- DO NOT GET OVERWHELMED, TAKE YOUR TIME, THINK, ASK FOR ANOTHER OPINION
- MAKE PLEASING GOD YOUR PRIORITY SO YOU WILL ALWAYS BE ABLE TO SEE/FIND THE TRUTH.
- IF YOU ARE WRONG BE READY TO REPENT.