



Titus Ten – Chapter #5

Authority

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*** [Start the Recorder](#) ***

Opening Prayer

Introduction: Good morning. Today, we'll be covering Chapter 5 of our study through the book, *The Titus Ten: Foundations for Godly Manhood*. The subject of the chapter is Authority.

Group Discussion – Reflection Questions from the Last Session:

- last time we met we discussed assignments... can anyone remember what a God given assignment is? A God-given assignment is anyone God has entrusted to you and anything he has called you to do

Summary of Chapter 5 – Authority:

- On about April 17, 1521 the father of the protestant reformation, Martin Luther, stood before the Holy Roman Emperor, Charles V at the Diet at Worms to answer for his perceived crimes against the Roman Catholic Church. He had been declared a heretic against God and the church by the Pope. Nearly 4 years before, he had posted his 95 theses on the castle church door in Wittenberg to have a discussion about the things he felt the Roman Catholic Church, its pope, and councils were doing incorrectly. At stake was who had authority over mankind and who determined how men should live in right relationship with God.
- Luther believed that God had all authority and through Jesus he had delegated that authority to man.
 - Matt 28:18 says: 18 And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."
- From P104 – Smith Kingdom Authority is the right and responsibility to act and rule under the king, on behalf of the king and for the king. Let's dig into what this means.
 - Firstly who is King – Phil 2 says that God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, 10 so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, 11 and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

- o So, for us to rule under the king is that HE would delegate to us some of that authority to rule and act for Him. For instance, it is under this authority that we seek to make disciples of Christ our king. We should rule and act as if we are servants of the king
 - Secondly, On behalf of the King means: that we would live and act under the laws that God has established both naturally// through his general revelation in and through creation and specifically through his Word that he has left us.
 - o As we have studied here before, we understand that The Word of God is inspired by the Spirit, authored by men, and passed down through scribes and// now modern-day translators and publishers that faithfully reproduce the meaning of the original text in our own languages.
 - Finally, For the king means that we do not add to the instructions of God. We do not use the authority to rule as the Gentiles do. Jesus says in Matt 20: 25-28 "You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. 26 it shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant 27 and whoever would be first among you must be your slave 28 even as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."
 - o We are to act and rule as Jesus did... not as a gentile but as a gentle servant.
- I think Christians get a bad reputation sometimes because of those who claim to be followers of Christ or attend a certain church but then take advantage of those in their home, business, or neighborhood.
- We are Not to abuse the delegated authority but to serve God well as we exercise that authority in our homes, in our church, and in our community.
- M. Luther was accused of being a heretic. That accusation usually followed with conviction and burning of the accused at a stake. Luther's books were brought to this trial, laid out on a table in the room. There were many, as he was a prolific writer. He was asked, "Do you agree with what you wrote, or do you recant?"
- The prosecutor knew Luther was a great orator who delivered convincing arguments, so he purposefully crafted this question to encourage a yes or no or very short response.
- Luther begged the court to recess till tomorrow for him to consider his answer. After some discussion the recess was granted. The next day after not sleeping all night but praying the whole time Luther returned.
- I must shorten his reply for time, but I encourage you to read it at your leisure, it is one of the greatest orations of history. So his answer boils down to: I have written books on many subjects, some even received by the pope and my enemies well. So I would answer for those that are in contention. Martin Luther replied:

- “Since your most serene majesty and your highnesses require of me a simple, clear, and direct answer, I will give one, and it is this: I cannot submit my faith either to the pope or to the councils, because it is clear that they have fallen into error and even into inconsistency with themselves. If, then, I am not convinced by proof from Holy Scripture, or by cogent reasons, if I am not satisfied by the very text I have cited (The Bible alone), and if my judgment is not in this way brought into subjection to God's word, I neither can nor will retract anything; for it cannot be either safe or honest for a Christian to speak against his conscience. Here I stand. I cannot do otherwise. God help me. Amen.”
- These are the words that were heard around the world and began the protestant reformation under the authority of God and Scripture.
- Luther answers an emperor, an earthly king. Luther states that he is under the authority of the Heavenly King. The end. Luther appeals to the authority of scripture alone.

Closing Challenge:

- This chapter is about authority. As men of God, it challenges us:
 - The enemy of active rule is passivity, and Luther demonstrated that when godly men stand up and do what God calls them to, God will be honored and people will be saved.
 - Do not be passive, for our enemy Satan is like a lion creeping in the grass seeking to devour our marriages, our children's hearts, our witness, and our assignments!

Questions or Comments?

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