

“Authority”
Matthew 7:28-8:13

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Take-Home Truth: **JESUS DEMONSTRATES UNIQUE, DIVINE AUTHORITY.**

JESUS HAS AUTHORITY TO PRESCRIBE ETERNAL TRUTH.

*When Jesus had finished saying these things, the crowds were amazed at his teaching,
²⁹because he taught as one who had authority, and not as their teachers of the law.*
Matthew 7:28-29 (New International Version)

The Two Elements of “Authority”

- The freedom or right to make things happen without hindrance

Our God is in the heavens; he does all that he pleases.
Psalm 115:3 (English Standard Version)

- Power: the ability to act

“For with God nothing will be impossible.” Luke 1:37 (New King James Version)

After that the end will come, when he (Jesus) will turn the Kingdom over to God the Father, having destroyed every ruler and authority and power.
1 Corinthians 15:24 (New Living Translation)

Application Questions:

- What does it mean to recognize and submit to Christ’s authority?
- What in my life demonstrates that I am doing that?

JESUS HAS THE AUTHORITY TO DETERMINE WHAT FAITH IS AND WHO WILL ENTER THE KINGDOM.

When Jesus had entered Capernaum, a centurion came to him, asking for help. ⁶“Lord,” he said, “my servant lies at home paralyzed, suffering terribly.” ⁷Jesus said to him, “Shall I come and heal him?” ⁸The centurion replied, “Lord, I do not deserve to have you come under my roof. But just say the word, and my servant will be healed. ⁹For I myself am a man under authority, with soldiers under me. I tell this one, ‘Go,’ and he goes; and that one, ‘Come,’ and he comes. I say to my servant, ‘Do this,’ and he does it.” ¹⁰When Jesus heard this, he was amazed and said to those following him, “Truly I tell you, I have not found anyone in Israel with such great faith. ¹¹I say to you that many will come from the east and the west, and will take their places at the feast with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven. ¹²But the subjects of the kingdom will be thrown outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.” ¹³Then Jesus said to the centurion, “Go! Let it be done just as you believed it would.” And his servant was healed at that very hour. Matthew 8:5-13 (NIV)

Application Question: Have I expressed saving faith in Jesus and entered His Kingdom?

JESUS HAS AUTHORITY TO HEAL AND RESTORE.

When Jesus came down from the mountainside, large crowds followed him. ²A man with leprosy came and knelt before him and said, “Lord, if you are willing, you can make me clean.” ³Jesus reached out his hand and touched the man. “I am willing,” he said. “Be clean!” Immediately he was cleansed of his leprosy. ⁴Then Jesus said to him, “See that you don’t tell anyone. But go, show yourself to the priest and offer the gift Moses commanded, as a testimony to them.” Matthew 8:1-4 (NIV)

He said to them, “It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority.” Acts 1:7 (ESV)

“The secret things belong to the LORD our God, but the things that are revealed belong to us and to our children forever, that we may do all the words of this law.” Deuteronomy 29:29 (ESV)

Application

- Ask for and gratefully receive Jesus healing and restoration.
- Seek God’s presence and grace when He doesn’t heal.