

BIBLE AUTHORITY

- **Restoration Principle**
- **Authority Principle**
- **Pattern Principle**
- **Principle of Necessary Inference**
- **Expedient Principle**
- **Illustration (Application)**

The lesson is entitled "Bible Authority"

And is meant to be a Biblical reminder, of some of those related, key principles.

The Bible says that,

- "the Lord Jesus shall be revealed **FROM** heaven **WITH** His mighty angels, ⁸ **IN** flaming fire **TAKING** vengeance on them that **KNOW NOT GOD**, and that **OBEY NOT** the **GOSPEL** of our Lord Jesus Christ: ⁹ who shall be **PUNISHED** with **EVERLASTING** destruction **FROM** the presence of the Lord, and **FROM** the glory of his power;" ([2Thess.1:7-9](#))

Those who **KNOW NOT** God and that **OBEY NOT** the gospel, **WILL BE** eternally punished.

[2 John verse 9](#), reads:

- "Whosoever transgresseth, and **ABIDETH NOT** in the doctrine of Christ, **HATH NOT** God."

For the souls who transgress and abide NOT in the teachings of Christ, will be separated from God.

And so there is motivation, to abide in the religion of Christ, in a Biblically SAFE and CAUTIOUS way, To ensure we accurately abide in the teachings of Christ.

Understanding the principles of Bible Authority is so critically important, to help ensure that what is practiced and taught, has God's approval. As with any Bible study, I think it is important that one have the right ATTITUDE in handling the Word of God.

Consider with me, some Biblical thoughts, that some have referred to as,

I. The Restoration Principle

which really has to do with one's spiritual attitude.

Christians should have a reverential attitude toward God, as the Bible says:

- "God is greatly to be **FEARED** in the assembly of the saints, and to be had in **REVERENCE**, of all them that are about Him" ([Psa.89:7](#)).
- "Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may **SERVE** God acceptably with **REVERENCE** and godly **FEAR**:" ([Heb.12:28](#)).
- "Furthermore we have had fathers of our flesh which corrected us, and we gave them **REVERENCE**: shall we not much rather be in **SUBJECTION** unto the Father of spirits, and **LIVE**?" ([Heb.12:9](#)).
- "...he that **FEARETH** Him, and worketh **RIGHTEOUSNESS**, is accepted **WITH** Him." ([Acts 10:35](#)).
- "The **FEAR** of the **LORD** is the **BEGINNING** of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction." ([Prov.1:7](#))

Followers of Christ realize the importance of God's thought's or His printed Words, over and beyond the thoughts or words of men, as the Bible says:

- "For **MY THOUGHTS** are **NOT** your thoughts, **NEITHER** are your ways **MY WAYS**, saith the LORD. For **AS** the heavens are **HIGHER** than the earth, so are **MY WAYS**, **HIGHER** than your ways, and **MY THOUGHTS**, than your thoughts" ([Isa.55:8-9](#)).
- "If we yet **SEEK** to please men, **RATHER** than God, we should **NOT** be the servants of Christ." ([Gal.1:10](#))
- "We ought to **OBEY** God, **RATHER** than men." ([Acts 5:29](#))

Christians need to remember that it is the Word of God,

- that is a **LAMP** and **LIGHT** unto our feet and path ([Psa.119:105](#)) ...**NOT** the words of men.
- It is the Word of God that one **REASONS** from ([Acts 17:2](#)) ...**NOT** the words of men.
- It is the Word of God where one gets **UNDERSTANDING** ([Psa.119:104](#)) ...**NOT** the words of men.
- God's Word is His **POWER** to **SAVE** ([Rom.1:14-16](#); [Jms.1:21](#)); ...**NOT** the words of men.

The Bible says,

- “According as His **DIVINE** power, hath **GIVEN** unto us **ALL** things, that **PERTAIN** unto life and godliness, through the **KNOWLEDGE** of Him...” ([2Pet.1:3a](#))

...and so it is the Word of God that gives us all things, **NOT** the words, thoughts, or feelings of men!

- “the **WAY** of man, is **NOT** in himself: it is **NOT** in man... to **DIRECT** his steps.” ([Jer.10:23](#)).
- One can't follow after the great multitudes, as most will perish ([Matt.7:13-14](#));
- One can't follow after Mama, Daddy, son or daughter or the closest of family members ([Matt.10:37](#); [Lk.14:26](#));
- One can't follow what a preacher says, just because he says it ([Gal.1:6-9](#));
- One can't add to, nor take away, from the Words of God ([Rev.22:18-19](#); [Deut.4:2](#); [Prov.30:6](#)).

One should,

- “**PROVE** all things, **HOLD** fast that which is **GOOD**.” ([1Thess.5:21](#))
- and don't accept any and every wind of doctrine (or teaching), that comes along ([Eph.4:14](#))

Every christian's attitude toward the gospel, SHOULD be:

- “As the hart panteth **AFTER** the water brooks, so panteth my soul **AFTER** Thee, O God. my soul **THIRSTETH** for GOD, for the **LIVING** God: when shall I **COME** and **APPEAR** before God.” ([Psa.42:1-2](#))
- “How **LOVE** I, Thy **LAW**! It is my meditation **ALL** the day.” ([Psa.119:97](#))
- “How sweet are Thy **WORDS** unto my taste! Yea, sweeter than **HONEY** to my mouth!” ([Psa.119:103](#))
- “Thy **WORDS** were found, and I did **EAT** them; and Thy **WORD** was unto me, the **JOY** and **REJOICING** of mine heart.” ([Jer.15:16](#)) “O earth, earth, earth, **HEAR** the **Word** of the **LORD**.” ([Jer.22:29](#))

Like the attitude of Ezra, christians will:

- “**PREPARE**... (their) heart to **SEEK** the law of the LORD, and to **DO** it, and to **TEACH**...” ([Ezra 7:10](#)).

With a Restoration, and Reverent attitude, christians need to “Go **FORWARD**, by going **BACK** to the **BIBLE!**”, as the faithful of the past proclaimed.

Great men of the past recognized this Restoration Principle, by expressing the following motto's:

- Insist on **SPEAKING**, as the **BIBLE** speaks ([1Pet.4:11](#); [Rom.4:3](#));
- Insist on **BEING SILENT**, where the **BIBLE** is silent ([Lev.10:1-2](#); [Deut.17:3](#); [Heb.7:14](#));
- Insist on **DOING**, BIBLE things, in **BIBLE** ways ([Jer.6:16](#); [1Pet.2:21](#); [Jn.13:15](#); [Phil.4:9](#); [Heb.8:5](#));
- Insist on **CALLING**, BIBLE things, by **BIBLE** names ([Col.3:17](#); [Acts 4:12](#));
 - and christians are called by and through the teachings of the gospel ([2Thess.2:14](#)),
 - and not by their own “THINK so's” ([Isa.55:8-9](#)) or by what “SEEMS” right ([Prov.14:12](#)).
- In short, christians should believe in plain **BIBLE** teaching and preaching on all religious and moral matters ([2Tim.4:2](#)).
- True people of God must have Bible Authority for all things done in the name of religion ([Col.3:17](#); [2Jn.vs.9](#)).

IF one follow's the Biblical recipe, they too can **DO** what those first century followers **DID** and **BE** what those New Testament followers of Christ **WERE**.

..But **IF** one stray's from the Biblical recipe, the end result or product, is something other than New Testament christianity.

In addition to the Restoration Principle, Consider with me,

II. The Authority Principle

The kindred of the high priest at Jerusalem ([Acts 4:6](#)), once asked,

- “By what **POWER** (or by what name) **have ye done this?**” ([Acts 4:7](#)).

In other words, “by what **AUTHORITY**”, have ye done this?

All should ask this same question for everything done as individual christians and for any practice or activity engaged in, by the collected assembled saints (that is the local church).

One should realize and recognize that, Christ said,

- “**ALL power** (that is, all authority) **is given unto ME, IN heaven and IN earth.**” ([Matt.28:18](#)).

The Bible teaches us to,

- “Let the **WORD** of Christ **DWELL** in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.
And whatsoever ye **DO** in **WORD** (that is teaching) or **DEED**, (that is practice) do **ALL** in the **NAME** of the Lord Jesus (that is, by the authority of the Lord Jesus), giving **THANKS** to God and the Father **BY** Him” ([Col.3:16-17](#)).

God the Father, in reference to Christ Jesus, gave **SPECIFIC** instructions for His children to

- “Hear ye **HIM**” ([Matt.17:5](#)), as opposed to Moses or Elijah ([Matt.17:4](#)).
- “God... hath in these last days (that is, the era of Christ vs. the Mosaical era) spoken unto us **BY** His Son, whom He hath appointed **HEIR** of **ALL** things, **BY** whom also, He **MADE** the worlds;” ([Heb.1:1-2](#)).

Jesus is described in the Bible as,

- **Our SHEPHERD** ([Jn.10:11](#)),
- **Our CAPTAIN** ([Heb.2:10](#)),
- **Our HEAD** ([Eph.5:23](#)),
- **Our KING & LORD** ([1Tim.6:15](#)),
- And **Our CREATOR** ([Isa.43:7](#); [1Pet.4:19](#); [Jn.1:1,14](#)).

So, when God speaks, instructs or gives a direct statement or command, one must **TAKE HEAD**, or **DO** what He says,

Because HE, Has **ALL AUTHORITY** ([Matt.28:18](#)), and We must **OBEY** ([Heb.5:9](#)).

So we've looked at the Principles of Restoration & Authority, Let's move on to,

III. The Example or Pattern Principle, Including God's Silence

We must make **ALL** things according to the **PATTERN** ([Heb.8:5](#)).

The LORD said in the Old Testament days,

- “**STAND** ye in the ways, and **SEE**, and **ASK** for the **OLD** paths (or the Pattern), where is the **GOOD** way, and **WALK** therein, and ye shall **FIND** rest for your **SOULS**.” ([Jer.6:16](#))
- “For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also **SUFFERED** for us, leaving us an **EXAMPLE**, that ye should **FOLLOW** His steps:” ([1Pet.2:21](#)).
- “Those things, which ye have both **LEARNED**, and **RECEIVED**, and **HEARD**, and **SEEN** in me, **DO**: and the God of peace shall be **WITH** you.” ([Phil.4:9](#))

Along with the pattern principle, we can learn a principle regarding God's silence.

In the past, some did what God did **NOT** specifically command them.
...that is, God was **SILENT** on the subject matter at hand.

In [Leviticus 10:1](#) we read:

- “Nadab and Abihu, the sons of Aaron, took either of them his censer, and put fire therein, and put incense thereon, and **OFFERED** strange fire **BEFORE** the LORD, which He **COMMANDED** them **NOT**.”
...That is, God was **SILENT** on this subject matter.

As a result of doing what God “**COMMANDED** them **NOT**”, The Bible says:

- “There went out **FIRE** from the LORD, and **DEVOURED** them, and they **DIED** before the LORD.” ([Lev.10:2](#))

The Bible reveals that some ,

- “hath **GONE** and **SERVED** other gods, and **WORSHIPPED** them, either the sun, or moon, or any of the host of heaven, which I have **NOT** commanded” – that is, God was **SILENT** on this matter ([Deut.17:3](#)).

The Bible tells us that the Levite tribe was the priestly tribe. The Bible also said,

- “it is evident that our Lord sprang out of Juda; of which tribe Moses **SPAKE NOTHING** concerning priesthood.” ([Heb.7:14](#)). So therefore, Jesus could not be a priest while on this earth.

What did the Bible say about the tribe of Juda being a priestly tribe?

The Bible “**SPAKE NOTHING**” – that is God was **SILENT** on this subject matter.

One preacher said this,

- “the **SILENCE** of the scriptures does **NOT** authorize anything.” and how true that is.

In other words, one can't find authority, to do anything by saying, “The Bible doesn't say **NOT** to do this or that”.

Please don't ever forget, that one has an obligation to,

- “**PROVE** all things, **HOLD fast** that which is **GOOD**.” ([1Thess.5:21](#))
...In other words, we need Biblical evidence. We need to ask, “what saith the scripture?” ([Rom.4:3](#))
- We need to put our “**APPROVAL** (on the) things that are **EXCELLENT**.” ([Phil.1:10](#))

We need to,

- “**RECEIVE** the Word with all **READINESS** of mind, and **SEARCH** the scriptures **DAILY**, (to prove or determine) whether those things were so.” ([Acts 17:11](#)).
- “**STUDY** to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, **RIGHTLY** dividing (or handling aright) the **WORD** of Truth.” ([2Tim.2:15](#)).
- We cannot think of men “**ABOVE** (or beyond) that which is **WRITTEN**” ([1Cor.4:6](#)).
- “The scripture(s) **CANNOT** be **BROKEN** (or violated)” ([Jn.10:35](#)).
- We must “**OBSERVE ALL** things” ([Matt.28:20](#)).

Another Principle on Bible Authority, that can help us abide in the Teachings of Christ is,,

IV. The Principle of Necessary Inference or Implication which is an In-Escapable Conclusion

Notice this example in nature:

- If one exits their home, and notices that there is ice on their car windshield, one can necessarily reason, infer, imply, prove or conclude, that the temperature dropped below 32 degrees.

Now notice a few Biblical examples.

In [Acts chapter 8 and verse 5](#), the Bible says:

- “Philip went down to the city of Samaria, and preached **CHRIST** unto them.”

In [Acts chapter 8 and verse 12](#), the Bible says:

- “when they believed Philip **PREACHING** the things concerning the **KINGDOM** of God (that is, the church of God), and the **NAME** of Jesus Christ (that is, the authority and power of Jesus Christ), they were **BAPTIZED**, both men and women.”

One can necessarily reason, infer, imply, prove or conclude, that to preach **CHRIST**, necessarily includes **BAPTISM**.

In [Acts chapter 8](#), the Bible says:

- “Philip opened his mouth, and began at the same scripture, and **PREACHED** unto him Jesus. And **AS** they went on their way, they came unto a certain **WATER**: and the eunuch said, See, here is water; what doth hinder me to be **BAPTIZED**? And Philip said, **IF** thou believest with **ALL** thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, **I BELIEVE** that Jesus Christ **IS** the Son of God.

And he commanded the chariot to stand still: and they **WENT** down **BOTH** into the **WATER**, both Philip and the eunuch; and he (Philip) **BAPTIZED** him (the eunuch).

And when they were **COME** up **OUT** of the **WATER**, the Spirit of the Lord caught away Philip, that the eunuch saw him no more: and he (the eunuch) went on his way **REJOICING**.” ([Acts 8:35-39](#))

One can necessarily reason, infer, imply, prove or conclude, that to go “**DOWN** ...into the water” and to “**come UP** out of the water”, necessarily concludes that there must have been enough water to do so – implying that there was a full immersion, and not a sprinkling or pouring.

Now let's consider,

V. The Expedient Principle

The definition of expedience is:

- “That which serves to promote or advance”
[Webster New Twentieth Century Dictionary (Unabridged); page 616; Standard Reference Works Publishing (1956)]
- In other words, expedience **AIDS** to accomplish a particular task.

For something to be expedient, it must do **TWO** things:

It must **FIRST** be Biblical, as the Bible says,

- “All things are **LAWFUL** unto me, but all things are **NOT EXPEDIENT**:
all things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any.” ([1Cor.6:12](#))

SECONDLY, for something to be expedient, it must scripturally **BUILD UP** or **EDIFY**:

- “All things are **LAWFUL** for me, but all things are **NOT EXPEDIENT**:
all things are lawful for me, but all things **EDIFY NOT**” ([1Cor.10:23](#)).

To serve as an example, one might consider “when can christians meet for worship”?
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FIRST, one must consider what is **LAWFUL**?

- The first day of the week ([Acts 20:7](#); [1Cor.16:2](#)).

SECONDLY, one must consider what would **BUILD UP** or **EDIFY**?

- Could christians meet for worship at 3:00am on Sunday morning (the first day of the week)?

Well, it would certainly be lawful, because it would be on the first day of the week – But would it edify or build up? It is not likely that anyone would be very edified, by assembling for worship at 3:00am in the morning.

Most christians meet some time between 9:00am and Noon, on the first day of the week, because that time frame is both lawful, and edifying for most.

We've looked at the Principles on Restoration, Authority, Pattern, Necessary Inference and Expedience. Now let's make some application, by considering a few

VI. Illustrations of Generic and Specific Authority

With **Aids** (or expedience), versus **Additions** (or No Bible):

Consider,

A. Noah's Ark:

Think about the command or instruction given to Noah to build an ark.

- In the book of Genesis, we find that God gave a **GENERIC** command for Noah, to build an ark.
- Then God gave **SPECIFIC** instructions for Noah in [Genesis 6:14](#) to build that ark out of gopher wood.
- Notice that God did not tell Noah what tools he could use, so Noah would have authority from God, to use an axe, hammer, nails and a saw as an **AID** (or expedience) to carry out the command given him, to build an ark.
- However, If Noah had decided to utilize pine wood, as the source to construct the ark, rather than gopher wood, Noah would **NOT** have had authority to do so, because God gave **SPECIFIC instruction** for Noah to use gopher wood and that specific instruction would have **EXCLUDED** any other kind of wood.

Utilizing pine wood to construct the ark, instead of gopher wood, would have been an **ADDITION** to what God had instructed.

Notice the chart below, emphasizing these principles:

GENERIC	SPECIFIC (Bible)	AID (Expedience)	ADDITION (No Bible)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build an ark 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build ark out of gopher wood (Gen.6:14) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Axe, hammer, nails, saw • White gopher ? • Red gopher ? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pine, • Oak, • Cherry Wood, etc

Consider an Illustration of these principles concerning,

B. The Purpose of the Church

GENERICALLY the local church has a **PURPOSE**.

SPECIFICALLY the purpose of the church is to **GLORIFY** God.

- “unto Him be **GLORY**, **IN** the church, **BY** Christ Jesus, throughout all ages, world without end. Amen” ([Eph.3:21](#)).

Hence, we are to please God, not ourselves.

The church doesn’t exist to entertain themselves, but to glorify God.

The church glorify’s God by making known, God’s wisdom or Truth ([Matt.28:18-20](#); [Phil.1:5](#); [Rev.3:8](#); [1Tim.3:15](#)).

- “Herein is my Father **GLORIFIED**, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye **BE** My disciples.” ([Jn.15:8](#)).

To **AID** in making known the wisdom of God,

- one might teach publicly or privately ([Acts 20:20](#)).

But on the contrary, if people make up ways to glorify God,

- such as offering strange fire unto the Lord ([Lev.10:1-2](#)), such would be an **ADDITION** to Bible revelation.

People do similar things when they “ride for Christ” and build horse corrals to ride horses, which in the year 2023, is a popular thing known as “Cowboy church”.

Notice the chart below, emphasizing these principles:

GENERIC	SPECIFIC (Bible)	AID (Expedience)	ADDITION (No Bible)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The church has a purpose	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• “unto Him be GLORY IN the church BY Christ Jesus.” (Eph.3:21)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Public or private Bible studies to AID in making known God’s Truth	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Glorify God with strange fire (Lev.10:1-2)• Glorify God through riding horses• Glorify God with tatoos• Glorify God by any means outside the teachings of Christ (2Jn.9)

Notice an illustration on these principles concerning,

C. The Work of Preaching:

- **GENERALLY**, gospel preachers have an obligation to preach.
- An expedience to preaching or to **AID** in preaching, a man might verbally preach; he might preach with the pen in corresponsance, as the inspired New Testament writers did and he might preach publicly to an entire audience or he might preach privately “one on one” in someone’s home.
- **SPECIFICALLY**, man has an obligation to preach the Word ([2Tim.4:2](#))!
- But on the contrary, if a man were to preach anything other than the Word of God, such would be unacceptable!
The apostle Paul said:
 - **“WOE** is unto me, if I preach **NOT** the gospel” ([1Cor.9:16](#)).
 - **“IF** our gospel be **HID**, it is **HID** to them that are **LOST**” ([2Cor.4:3](#)).

Remember the expedience Principle?

- What if a preacher preached too long?
- Does a preacher have the freedom to preach as long as he wants?

If his preaching doesn't build up and edify ([1Cor.10:23](#)) the congregation, the answer would be NO!

Notice the chart emphasizing these principles:

GENERIC	SPECIFIC (Bible)	AID (Expedience)	ADDITION (No Bible)
Preach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preach the Word (2Tim.4:2) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preach verbally or in writing. • Preach publicly or Privately 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Man’s Thoughts (Isa.55:8-9; 1Cor.9:16; 2Tim.4:2) • What seems right (Prov.14:12) • Women preachers (1Cor.14:34-37; 1Tim.2:8-15; NOTE: Woman can teach men privately (Acts 18:24-26) and other women all the time (Titus 2:3-5). • Be self-willed in preaching as long as he wants, Even though saints have voiced his lessons are NOT EDIFYING (1Cor.10:23), because they are too long and unorganized at times, which is the opposite of being “decently and in order” (1Cor.14:40)

We'll notice just one more illustration on these principles concerning,

D. Music In Worship:

GENERALLY, we are to,

- “Teach and Admonish **WITH** spiritual Songs” ([Col.3:16](#)).

To **AID** or help ensure things are done “decently and In order” ([1Cor.14:40](#)), we might have adequate lighting ([Acts 20:8](#)), utilize song books, and a song leader; These are **AUTHORIZED expedients** or **AID’s** to carry out the command to sing.

SPECIFICALLY, we are to,

- “**SING**” ([Col.3:16](#); [Eph.5:19](#))
- and “**SING** with the UNDERSTANDING” ([1Cor.14:15](#)).

But on the contrary, if one were to play an instrument of music (such as a guitar or drums) and **OR** if one were to vocally imitate the sounds of a mechanical instrument (such as “bebop boom”), **OR** engage in whistling, yodeling or hand clapping,

- **NOTHING** would be produced, which could be **UNDERSTOOD** ([1Cor.14:15](#));
- **NOTHING** would be produced, to “Teach & Admonish” from God’s Word ([Col.3:16](#)).

Only noise is produced from mechanical instruments, whistling, or hand clapping. Such noises would **ALL** be something in **ADDITION** to singing and thus another **KIND** of music, than what God specified.

Remember what God did to Nadab and Abihu for “offering strange fire”, which God “commanded them not”? This serves as an example to very cautiously conduct our lives and worship, in a way that safeguards our souls.

Notice the chart below, emphasizing these principles:

GENERIC	SPECIFIC (Bible)	AID (Expedience)	ADDITION (No Bible)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Teach & Admonish with spiritual songs” (Col.3:16) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “SING” (Col.3:16; Eph.5:19; 1Cor.14:15) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lights, • Song Books, • Song Leader, etc 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any mechanical instrument of music (piano, guitar, drums, etc) • Any sounds imitating instruments of music (bebop boom) • Any sounds that can’t be understood, or fail to teach God’s word (whistling, yodeling, hand clapping, etc) • Refer to O.T. as a binding law or practice for music in worship (Gal.5:2-4; Col.2:13-16; Eph.2:13-16; Heb.8:6-9)

May God help us, to not soon forget His Word.

With these Principles on Bible Authority, and some attention to detail in our study efforts, along with prayer to understand His Word, one can have confidence in their spiritual convictions, on any Biblical subject.

VII. IN-CONCLUSION

For sure we want to **STUDY** ([2Tim.2:15](#)) and **GROW** ([2Pet.3:18](#)),

- so we can properly **EQUIP** ourselves **SPIRITUALLY** ([Eph.6:14-17](#));
- so we can “be **READY** always to **GIVE** an answer to every man that **ASKETH** you a reason of the **HOPE** that is **IN** you **WITH** meekness and fear.” ([1Pet.3:15](#));
- **HOLDING** fast the **FAITHFUL** word as (you) hath been **TAUGHT**, that (you) may be **ABLE**, by **SOUND** doctrine, both to **EXHORT** and to **CONVINCE** the gainsayers. ([Titus 1:9](#));
- so we can be “**SET** for the **DEFENCE** of the **GOSPEL**” ([Phil.1:17](#))
- so we can “**FIGHT** the good **FIGHT** of faith, **LAY** hold on **ETERNAL** life.” ([1Tim.6:12](#))
- So we can “**GO** on unto **PERFECTION**.” ([Heb.6:1](#))

The Lord invites you to Come to Him in strict obedience.

If you have a spiritual **NEED**, won't you **COME**,

- **Believing** ([Jn.8:24](#); [Heb.11:6](#)),
- **Repenting** ([Lk.13:3](#); [Acts 17:30](#); [2Pet.3:9](#); [1Jn.1:9](#); [Jn.8:11](#)),
- **Confessing** ([Acts 8:37](#); [Matt.10:32-33](#); [Rom.10:9-10](#)),
- Be **Baptized** INTO Christ ([Gal.3:26-27](#); [Rom.6:3-5](#); [Mk.16:16](#); [1Pet.3:21](#); [Acts 22:16](#))
...Where **ALL** “spiritual blessings” exist ([Eph.1:3](#))
- And Remain **Faithful** ([Rev.2:10](#)), or **Endure** until the end ([Matt.24:13](#))?

...as together we stand and sing.

Sources: Notes from a Sermon preached by Richard Fox
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