

1. AUTHORITY AND SUBMISSION

Principle – if we wish to have authority in the physical and/or spiritual world we must be in submission to those with authority over us.

Key Scripture:

Matthew 8:9-10 For 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. When Jesus heard this, he was astonished and said to those following him, "I tell you the truth, I have not found anyone in Israel with such great faith.

Romans 13:5-7 Therefore, it is necessary **to submit to** the authorities, not only because of possible punishment but also because of conscience. This is also why you pay taxes, for the authorities are God's servants, who give their full time to governing. ⁷ Give everyone what you owe him: If you owe taxes, pay taxes; if revenue, then revenue; if respect, then respect; if honor, then honor.

In the first example we see a Roman Centurion seeking Christ's healing for his sick servant. Jesus was amazed that the Centurion (a non-Jew!) understood that Christ had power to heal, and that that power came from Christ being in submission to his Father.

The second scripture – a guiding principle for life.....

Application in daily life??

- ◆ To be a spiritually powerful Christian, we must walk in daily submission to Christ and those with authority over us including employers and government
- ◆ Most people have someone in authority over them – if we have a need to “access” them we should go to those in authority over them. Eg If you think someone else's children need disciplining, approach those in authority over them (ie teacher if at school, parents if they are around!) – don't do it yourself, it is not your business!

What is your example in this area??