

# The Chain of Authority

Inherent and Delegated Authority

# The Foundations of Authority

God has total, inherent authority over us  
because:

- He created us
- He judges us
- He saves us

# Matthew 21:23

Now when He came into the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people confronted Him as He was teaching, and said, "By what authority are You doing these things? And who gave You this authority?"

# Delegated Authority

- Is given by a higher authority  
(Jn. 19:10-11)

## John 19:10-11

Then Pilate said to Him, "Are You not speaking to me? Do You not know that I have power to crucify You, and power to release You?" 11 Jesus answered, "You could have no power at all against Me unless it had been given you from above. Therefore the one who delivered Me to you has the greater sin."

# Delegated Authority

- Is given by a higher authority  
(Jn. 19:10-11)
- Is subordinate to higher authority  
(1 Cor. 15:24-28)

# 1 Corinthians 15:24-28

Then comes the end, when He delivers the kingdom to God the Father, when He puts an end to all rule and all authority and power. 25 For He must reign till He has put all enemies under His feet. 26 The last enemy that will be destroyed is death. 27 For "HE HAS PUT ALL THINGS UNDER HIS FEET." But when He says "all things are put under Him," it is evident that He who put all things under Him is excepted. 28 Now when all things are made subject to Him, then the Son Himself will also be subject to Him who put all things under Him, that God may be all in all.

# Delegated Authority

- Is given by a higher authority (Jn. 19:10-11)
- Is subordinate to higher authority (1 Cor. 15:24-28)
- Those under it have the same duty to submit as to the original delegating power (Jn. 5:23; Jn. 12:44-45)



## John 5:22-23

For the Father judges no one, but has committed all judgment to the Son, 23 that all should honor the Son just as they honor the Father. He who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent Him.

# John 12:44-45

Then Jesus cried out and said, "He who believes in Me, believes not in Me but in Him who sent Me. 45 And he who sees Me sees Him who sent Me.

# Two Mistakes

- Taking on more authority than you have been given – John 19:7,12

## John 19:7, 12

The Jews answered him, "We have a law, and according to our law He ought to die, because He made Himself the Son of God." ... 12 ... Pilate sought to release Him, but the Jews cried out, saying, "If you let this Man go, you are not Caesar's friend. Whoever makes himself a king speaks against Caesar."

# Two Mistakes

- Taking on more authority than you have been given – John 19:7,12
- Surrendering your delegated authority to another – Matt. 27:24

# Matthew 27:24

When Pilate saw that he could not prevail at all, but rather that a tumult was rising, he took water and washed his hands before the multitude, saying, "I am innocent of the blood of this just Person. You see to it."

# The Chain of Authority

God

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Jesus – Mt 17:5-6;  
Mt. 28:18; Jn. 12:48-50



# Matthew 17:5-6

While he was still speaking, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them; and suddenly a voice came out of the cloud, saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. Hear Him!" 6 And when the disciples heard it, they fell on their faces and were greatly afraid.

# Matthew 28:18

And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying,  
"All authority has been given to Me in  
heaven and on earth.

## John 12:48-50

He who rejects Me, and does not receive My words, has that which judges him-- the word that I have spoken will judge him in the last day. 49 For I have not spoken on My own authority; but the Father who sent Me gave Me a command, what I should say and what I should speak. 50 And I know that His command is everlasting life. Therefore, whatever I speak, just as the Father has told Me, so I speak."

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God

Jesus – Mt 17:5-6;  
Mt. 28:18; Jn. 12:48-50

Apostles: Mt. 16:15-19

# Matthew 16:15-19

He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?"

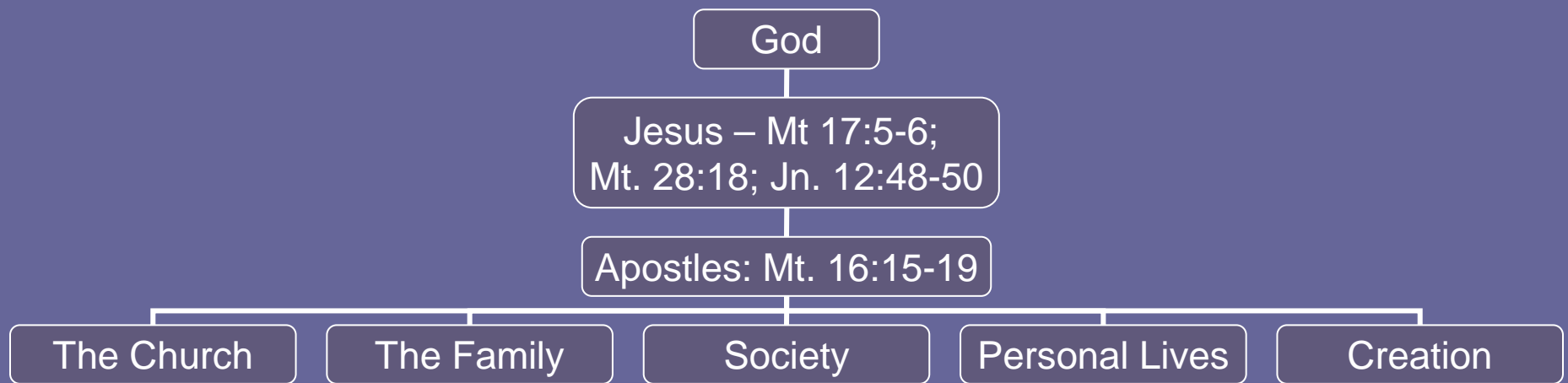
16 Simon Peter answered and said, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." 17 Jesus

answered and said to him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah, for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father who is in

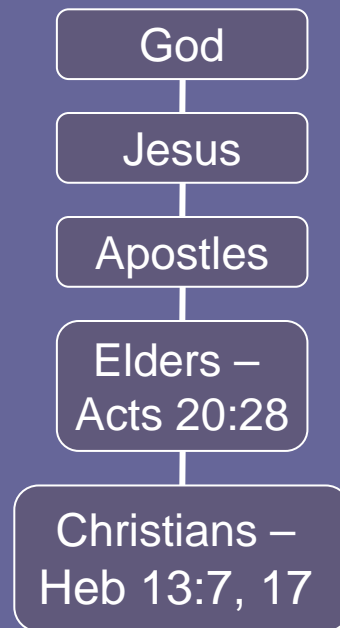
heaven. 18 And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against

it. 19 And I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven."

# The Chain of Authority



# The Chain of Authority: In the Church

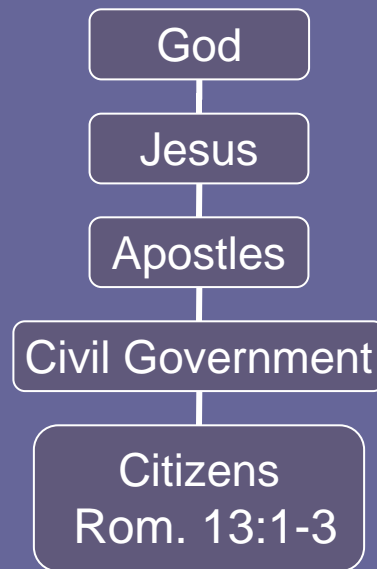


# The Chain of Authority: In the Home





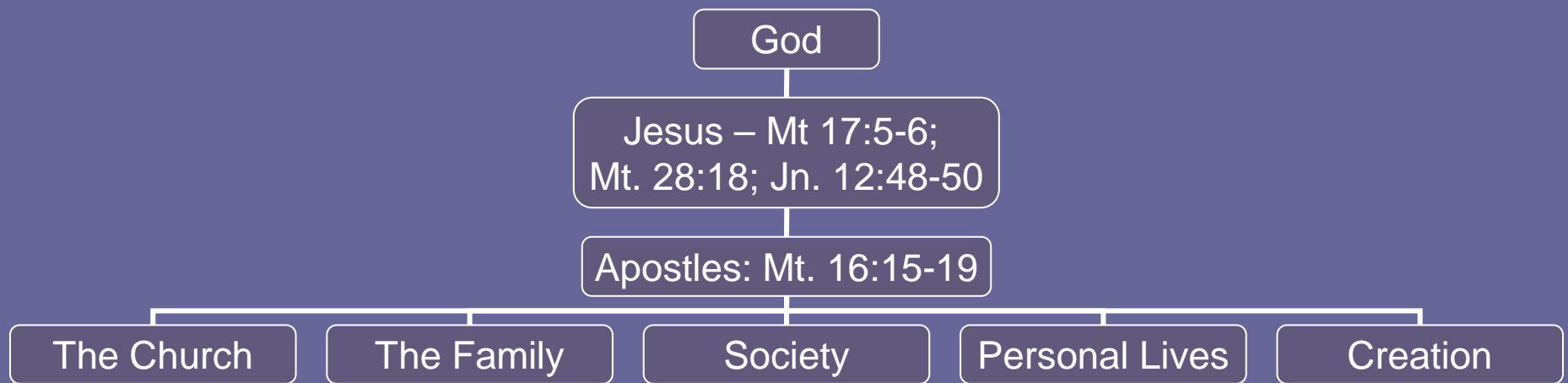
# The Chain of Authority In Society



# The Chain of Authority In our Personal Lives



# The Chain of Authority



# By Whose Authority Do You Do These Things?

- “By My Own Authority”

# Humanist Manifesto II

“We affirm that moral values derive their source from human experience. Ethics is autonomous and situational needing no theological or ideological sanction. Ethics stems from human need and interest. To deny this distorts the whole basis of life. Human life has meaning because we create and develop our futures. Happiness and the creative realization of human needs and desires, individually and in shared enjoyment, are continuous themes of humanism. We strive for the good life, here and now.”

# By Whose Authority Do You Do These Things?

- “By My Own Authority”
- “I Don’t Know”

# By Whose Authority Do You Do These Things?

- “By My Own Authority”
- “I Don’t Know”
- “In the Name of the Lord”

# Only Two States

Acts 26:15-18; Col. 1:13-14

- Under Satan's Authority, or
  - Under God's Authority

Where are You?