

## HOW TO ESTABLISH BIBLE AUTHORITY

### INTRODUCTION:

#### 1. The Bible Is A Pattern or "Blueprint":for Authority.

##### A. The Pattern is Explicit.

Note: "To say that something is taught explicitly is to say that it is stated in so many words, i.e., that the matter is made clear without one's having to exercise his powers of reasoning in order to deduce (infer) some proposition which is not already a part of that explicit evidence."

##### B. This Pattern Involves Implicit Teaching.

Note: By implicit teaching we mean that which is drawn by deduction from explicit teaching.

##### C. This Pattern Involves a Law of Exclusion:

Note: This law of exclusion is stated in II John 9-11: "Whoever transgresses and does not abide in the doctrine of Christ does not have God. He who abides in the doctrine of Christ has both the Father and the Son. If anyone comes to you and does not bring this doctrine, do not receive him into your house nor greet him; for he who greets him shares in his evil deeds.

Note: When there is no precept, approved example or necessary inference that includes the practice under consideration, there is no authority for such practice and it is excluded . . . God's silence rules against it and to engage in such a practice is to add to the law of God. "We must not only speak where the Bible speaks but where it is silent."

#### 2. The Words of Jesus Are A Part of the Pattern.

A. Matt. 7:24-27: "Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock; and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell. And great was its fall."

B. John 12:48: "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."

3. The Apostle Paul Makes It Very Plain That There Is a Pattern.

- A. II Tim. 1:13: “Hold fast the pattern of sound words which you have heard from me, in faith and love which are in Christ Jesus.”
- B. This pattern was to be taught to “faithful men” who would teach others also.
- C. I Tim. 1:3: “As I urged you when I went into Macedonia -- remain in Ephesus that you may charge some that they teach no other doctrine.”
- D. I Tim. 6:3-4: “If anyone teaches otherwise and does not consent to wholesome words, even the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to the doctrine which is according to godliness, he is proud, knowing nothing, but is obsessed with disputes and arguments over words, from which come envy, strife, reviling, evil suspicions,”
- E. I Cor. 4:6: “Now these things, brethren, I have figuratively transferred to myself and Apollos for your sakes, that you may learn in us not to think beyond what is written, that none of you may be puffed up on behalf of one against the other.”
- F. I Thess. 5:21: “Test all things; hold fast what is good.”
- G. II Thess. 2:15: “Therefore, brethren, stand fast and hold the traditions which you were taught, whether by word or our epistle.”
- H. I Cor. 11:1-2: “Imitate me, just as I also imitate Christ. Now I praise you, brethren, that you remember me in all things and keep the traditions as I delivered them to you.”
- I. Phil. 3:17: “Brethren, join in following my example, and note those who so walk, as you have us for a pattern.” The word translated “ensample” is translated “pattern” in Berry’s Interlinear Greek-English New Testament. (See also Acts 7:44 and Heb. 8:5.)
- J. Phil. 4:9: “These things which you learned and received and heard and saw in me, these do, and the God of peace will be with you.”

- K. II Tim. 3:13-17: “But evil men and impostors will grow worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived. But as for you, continue in the things which you have learned and been assured of, knowing from whom you have learned them, and that from childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.”
- L. Titus 2:1, 7-8: “But as for you, speak the things which are proper for sound doctrine: in all things showing yourself to be a pattern of good works; in doctrine showing integrity, reverence, incorruptibility, sound speech that cannot be condemned, that one who is an opponent may be ashamed, having nothing evil to say to you.”
- M. The Apostle John Wrote: “Beloved, believe not every spirit, but prove the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets are gone out into the world.”

Note: One who teaches false doctrine is a false prophet.

4. Meaning of the Greek Words Translated “Examples”

δειγμα Deigma Jude 7  
A specimen, as shown

ὑπόδειγμα Hupodeigma James 5:10, Heb. 4:11, Heb. 8:5, II Peter 2:6  
An exhibit for example or warning

ὑποδεικνύμι Hupodeiknumi Luke 6:47, Acts 9:16, Acts 20:32  
To exhibit under the eyes (figuratively); to show, warn; to exemplify (admonish, instruct)

τύπος Tupos Acts 7:44, I Cor. 10:6, Rom. 5:14  
A die (as struck); a stamp or scar, by analogy, by shape; a model for imitation

ὑπογραμμὸς Hypogrammos I. Peter 2:21  
Noun, used only here in the NT, meaning pattern or example. Conveys the idea of teacher drawing guidelines over which students would practice writing letters.

παράδειγμα τίσαι Paradeigmatisai Matthew 1:19  
Expose to infamy; make a public example of; put to an open shame

I. BIBLE AUTHORITY IS ESTABLISHED IN THREE WAYS:

- A. By Direct Command : Matt. 28:18-20; Mark 16:15-16

2. Heb. 10:25 - We are to assemble together.
3. Matt. 26:26-29 - We are to eat the Lord's Supper.
4. I Cor. 16:1-2 - We are to contribute each week.
5. John 14:15  
John 15:14 - We are commanded to love and keep  
I John 2:4 the Commandments.

B. By Example:

1. Acts 5:28-29 - We feel that we are obligated to follow the example of Peter and John.
2. Acts 16:33 - We believe that we should urge immediate baptism (Jailor). Other passages would also.
3. II Cor. 8:1-5 - Since the churches of Macedonia gave themselves unto the Lord that we should do the same.
4. Gal. 2:20 - Paul could be crucified with Christ and dethroned self and enthroned Christ.
5. Acts 2:47 - This example of how people get into the church is still true today.
6. I Cor. 9:19-22 - Paul became all things to all men.
7. Phil. 3:7-9 - We should count all things lost for Christ.
8. Phil. 4:11 - Learn to be content in whatever state we may find ourselves. Make peace with the world and ourselves.
9. Acts 8:36-38 - Example of the mode of baptism and its element.
10. Acts 2:42 - Continue steadfastly in Apostles' doctrine of breaking of bread and prayers ...
11. Acts 11:26 - Disciples called Christians at Antioch ...
12. Acts 19:3-6 - Example of re-baptism.
13. I Cor. 9:27 - Buffet our bodies - Paul said he did.
14. Rom. 6:17 - Obeying from the heart a form of doctrine makes one free from sin.

C. Cannot Apply Every Single Occurrence of an Example:

1. Acts 16:23-26 - Preachers put in prison would have to sing praise at midnight.
2. Acts 6:1-6 - When we appoint servants we could appoint only seven.
3. Acts 18:24-26 - Every woman and her husband would have to take the preacher aside and straighten him out.
4. Acts 20:25-38 - The elders would have to fall on the neck of every departing preacher and kiss him.

D. By Inference:

1. Heb. 10:25 - We can infer that even though the early Christians did not see the time specified in this passage that they were fully aware of the times they were to assemble.
2. II John 10-11 - "If any one comes to you and does not bring this teaching, do not receive him into your house, and do not give him a greeting; for the one who gives him a greeting participates in his evil deeds."

(We can infer that this principle applies to us)

3. Rom. 15:4 - "Whatever was written in earlier times was written for our instruction, that through perseverance and encouragement of the Scripture we might have hope."

(Same principle applies today that we need to profit from the experiences of others in the Scriptures)

4. I Cor. 10:6, 11 - (Same principle stated)
5. Jude 5-6 - But I want to remind you, though you once  
II Pet. 2:4 knew this, that the Lord, having saved the people out of the land of Egypt, afterward destroyed those who did not believe. And the angels who did not keep their proper domain, but left their own habitation, He has reserved in everlasting chains under darkness for the judgment of the great day.

(We can infer what will happen at the judgment for those who reject God)

6. Luke 17:32 - Remember Lot's wife. (We can draw an inference)

**++THE SCRIPTURES IMPLY AND MAN CAN INFER++**

**II. THE POSSIBILITY OF A UNIVERSAL APPLICATION OF A PATTERN.**

- A. The Lord's Supper. (Scriptures involved: Matt. 26:26-  
I Cor. 11:20-34  
I Cor. 16:1-2  
Heb. 10:25  
Acts 20:6-12 (v.7)
  1. Took place on Sunday.
  2. Took place at Tross.
  3. Met in three-story building.
  4. Preacher preached 'til midnight.
  5. Lights in Upper Chamber.
  6. Eutychus fell out the window.
- B. The Baptism of the Eunuch.
  1. Took place near Gaza.
  2. The area was deserted.
  3. The water was probably still water.
  4. They rode in a chariot.
  5. They went down into the water.
  6. They came up out of the water.