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By What Authority?

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Recommended Citation

Age is famous for skepticism and doubt.

**INTRO:** Same condition existed in Christ's day. Text. Need for Christian alertness. I Thess. 5:21. Must honestly ask ourselves, "By what Authority?"

**I. IS THERE A NEED FOR AUTHORITY?**

A. Governments exist only on authority. Without—Deut. 12:8.
B. Standards must in all things. Money, Weights, Sports.
C. Smooth running society—because of respect for authority.
D. Religious confusion; sign of disrespect. Failure of man to heed true guide. Meddling too much. 250 groups.

**II. CAN FEELINGS BE TRUSTED AS AUTHORITY IN RELIGION?**

A. Some feel assurance of salvation in heart.
B. Feelings entirely dependent on information at hand.
   2. West Texas election report in error. Caused gloom.
C. Feelings good in religion only if person is properly taught.

**III. CAN WE LET OUR CONSCIENCE BE OUR GUIDE?**

A. If this our standard—as many standards as have men.
B. Conscience is product of one's education.
C. Paul's conscience clear while destroying ch. I Tim. 1:13.
D. Do not disregard conscience entirely—educate it—Bible.

**IV. IS FOREFATHER'S RELIGION GOOD ENOUGH FOR ME?**

A. Trace back far enough, forefather a head-hunter—heathen.
B. All have 2 parents, 4 grandparents etc. Agree all! 128.
C. Forefather right—you right. Forefather wrong—you wrong.

**V. SHOULD I ABIDE BY THE VERDICT OF THE MAJORITY?**

A. Question: What is the majority in religion today?
C. God warned against following majority. Ex. 23:2.
D. Jesus described the reward of the mass. Matt. 7:13.

**INVITATION:** Christ is the Supreme Authority. Matt. 28:18-20. Bible contains His commands, promises & threats.

2. Err Christian repent and pray. Done so. Now!