

**Our Plea – Lesson 4**  
**Return to Biblical Authority**  
**John 12:48-49**  
By Russell Earl

Thesis: I want to show how the Bible is our standard of authority, not anyone or anything else.

Intro:

1. Have some departed from Bible Authority?
2. What does Bible Authority provide the Christian?
3. What happens when you follow Biblical Authority?

I. Where does Authority come from in the church?

A. Authority comes from the standard.

1. Definition of standard – *“something set up and established by authority as a rule for the measure of quantity, weight, extent, value, or quality” (Merriam-Webster.com)*

2. In order to know what we are doing or following is right we must measure or compare it to the standard.

B. What is the standard in religion? **2 Timothy 3:16-17**

1. ALL – everything in the scriptures

2. INSPIRATION- God breathed

3. PROFITABLE

a. DOCTRINE – tells man what is right

b. REPROOF – tells man when he is not right.

c. CORRECTION – tells man how to get right

d. INSTRUCTION – tells man how to stay right.

4. COMPLETE – do not need anything else

5. These things considered - the Scriptures must be the standard of authority.

II. What does this standard of authority provide for man?

A. Bible Authority provides freedom from Sin. - **John 8:31-32**

1. IF – conditional

TRUTH – God’s word – **John 17:17**

FREE – from sin

**a. John 8:34**

**b. Romans 6:17-18**

**c. The scriptures provide Truth and Freedom from sin.**

B. Bible Authority reveals the fulfillment of all of man’s needs.- **2 Peter 1:3**

1. ALL THINGS – no need of anything else

LIFE AND GODLINESS – to have spiritual life and please God.

**2. Thus the scriptures provide all of man’s needs.**

III. What happens when we obey Bible Authority?

A. When We Follow Bible Authority We Remove Anything that is False.

1. The ideas of men leads a person away from truth (**Titus 1:14**).

2. We ensure we are following the right way (**Mt 7:13-14**).

B. When We Follow Bible Authority We Please God

1. **John 12:48-49** – tells us those who follow God’s standard are pleasing to Him.

Application & Conclusion:

1. With all the ideas today we must follow the right standard of authority.
2. If you are not living according to God’s standard of authority; are you ready to change?  
**(John 12:48-49, Titus 1:14)**
3. Full Invitation