

Fundamentals of the Faith-Lesson 5
Authority – Part 3
“**Implication & Direct Statement**”
Matthew 28:19-20
By Russ Earl

Thesis: I want to show why we must consider Implications & direct statements when seeking Bible Authority.

Intro:

1. As mentioned in previous lessons, Authority is not a subject enjoyed by many, but is necessary.
2. Last week we looked at Examples; today we look at Implications & Direct Statements.

I. **Direct Statement**

A. Isn't this a command?

1. The answer is "yes" & "no."
2. A command is a direct statement but not all direct statements are commands.
 - i. If we limit God to only commands in direct statements we limit where we ought naught.

B. Moods concerning direct statements

1. Indicative Mood
2. Subjunctive Mood
3. Imperative Mood
4. Optative Mood

C. An example of each

1. Indicative Mood
 - i. Declarative Statement
 - a. A statement of fact.
 - b. **Mk 16:16**
 - c. Facts: One must believe & be baptized to be saved.
2. Subjunctive Mood
 - i. Conditional statement
 - a. A statement of conditions.
 - b. **Co 3:1**
 1. Condition: One must be "raised with Christ" to be able to "seek those things which are above" - heaven.
3. Imperative Mood
 - i. Mandatory (Command)
 - a. A statement that cannot be countered.
 - b. **Mt 7:21**
 1. Only way to heaven is doing the will of God - being obedient. (**Mk 12:30; Jn 14:15**)
4. Optative Mood
 - a. A statement which sets forth a wish.
 - b. **Ro 6:2**
 1. Paul is asserting that he, based on the optative mood here,

wished no one would sin to try and produce faith though some were trying to do such in Rome.

2. By Paul writing this God authorizes no one to sin to try and produce more grace from God.

II. Implication

A. There are two ways by which God authorizes.

1. Explicitly or directly
 - i. Seen in the direct statements.
2. Implicitly or indirectly
 - i. Seen in implications and examples.
3. What about necessary inference?
 - i. We infer what God implies.

B. Defining implication

1. to express indirectly" (Merriam-Webster, I. (2003). Merriam-Webster's collegiate dictionary. (Eleventh ed.). Springfield, Mass.: Merriam-Webster, Inc.)
2. Literally it means correct reasoning or logical conclusion.
3. " When an action, fact, or teaching is absolutely DEMANDED by the Biblical information at hand—without being specifically stated—then that action, that fact or that teaching is a matter of implication." (*Ascertaining Biblical Truth by Deaver, Roy pg 58*)
 - i. Thus when God implies we must infer what the implied authorization is and accordingly follow it.

C. Inferring is different than assuming.

1. Too many today infer where there is no implication and thus assume.
 - i. Ac 16:15
 - a. Many assume Lydia was married.
 - b. Many assume therefore she they had children.
 - c. Many assume then some of these children were infants.
 - d. Many assume some of the infants were baptized then.
 - e. It is reasoned then that infant baptism is authorized.
 1. Remember that assumptions do not lead to authority ' from God.
 2. We must "know" what is certain not "guess" at it.
3. We know we don't know everything that Peter and the apostles taught the people.
 - i. Ac 2:40
4. We know that in order to be baptized one must first repent.
 - i. Ac 2:38
5. We know that part of repentance is stopping any sinful lifestyle one may be in.
 - i. Ro 6:6
6. We know that the apostles were teaching truth.
 - i. Lk 12:11-12; Jn 16:13
7. We know that Christ already made clear that one must not be in an unlawful marriage to go to heaven.
 - i. Mt 19:9; I Co 6:9-10
8. Thus we can know that any unlawfully married couples did not get baptized and thus added to the church.

2. Examples of inferring from implication

- i. We can infer and thus teach as truth that the apostle Paul repented before he was baptized and became a Christian.
 - a. First notice that nowhere in the Bible does it explicitly say that Paul repented before becoming a Christian.
 - b. We can logically come to that conclusion however.
1. If it is the case that no one can become a Christian w/o repenting and it is.
 - i. Ac 2:38; 17:30
2. If it is the case that Paul did become a Christian and he did.
 - i. II Pt 3:15
3. Then it is the case that Paul becoming a Christian had to repent though this is not explicitly stated.

D. Why are Implications & Direct Statements important?

1. We must understand what is implied and why?
2. We must also not confuse implication & assumption.
3. We must properly understand direct statements.

Conc:

1. Let us be humble enough to look at Bible Authority carefully, not to do so – often leads to error.
2. Let us not set the standard ourselves, but follow the standard set forth by God.
3. Full Invitation