

An open Bible with a wooden cover and a bookmark, resting on a wooden surface. The text "Bible Authority" is overlaid in the center.

# Bible Authority

# Fundamental Principles of Christianity

Therefore, leaving the discussion of the elementary principles of Christ, let us go on to perfection, not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God, of the doctrine of baptisms, of laying on of hands, of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment. Hebrews 6:1-2

# Fundamental Principles of Christianity

1. Repentance from dead works
2. Faith toward God
3. The doctrine of baptisms
4. Laying on of hands
5. Resurrection of the dead
6. Eternal judgment



# Fundamental Principles of Christianity

1. Repentance from dead works
2. Faith toward God
3. The doctrine of baptisms
- 4. Laying on of hands**
5. Resurrection of the dead
6. Eternal judgment



And Joseph took them both, Ephraim with his right hand toward Israel's left hand, and Manasseh with his left hand toward Israel's right hand, and brought them near him. Then Israel stretched out his right hand and laid it on Ephraim's head, who was the younger, and his left hand on Manasseh's head, guiding his hands knowingly, for Manasseh was the firstborn. And he blessed Joseph.....

Genesis 48:13-15

Laying on of Hands – Passing a Blessing  
Patriarchal Authority

But Pharaoh will not heed you, so that I may lay  
My hand on Egypt and bring My armies and My  
people, the children of Israel, out of the land of  
Egypt by great judgments.

Exodus 7:4

Laying on of Hands – Passing judgment  
Divine Judging Authority

# In The New Testament

Whom they set before the apostles; and when they had prayed, they laid hands on them.

Acts 6:6

Laying on of Hands – Commissioning the Seven  
Divine Selection Authority



# In The New Testament

As they ministered to the Lord and fasted, the Holy Spirit said, "Now separate to Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them." Then, having fasted and prayed, and laid hands on them, they sent them away.

Acts 13:2-3

Laying on of Hands – Commissioning Apostles  
Divine Selection Authority

# In The New Testament

Do not lay hands on anyone hastily, nor share in other people's sins; keep yourself pure.

1 Timothy 5:22

Laying on of Hands – Commissioning Elders  
Divine Selection Authority

# In The New Testament

And when Simon saw that through the laying on of the apostles' hands the Holy Spirit was given, he offered them money,

Acts 8:18

Laying on of Hands – Passing the Holy Spirit  
Miraculous Authority

# In The New Testament

And when Paul had laid hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke with tongues and prophesied.

Acts 19:6

Laying on of Hands – Passing of the Holy Spirit  
Miraculous Authority

# In The New Testament

Do not neglect the gift that is in you, which was given to you by prophecy with the laying on of the hands of the eldership.

1 Timothy 4:14

Laying on of Hands – Passing of a spiritual gift  
Miraculous Authority

# In The New Testament

“They will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover.”

Mark 16:18

Laying on of Hands – Working a Miracle  
Miraculous Authority

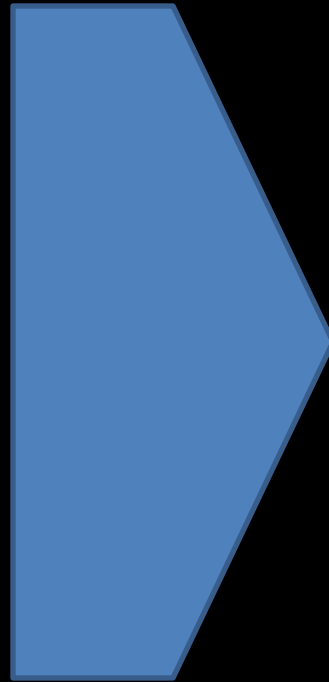


# Laying on of Hands: A FUNDAMENTAL of CHRIST

Blessing

The Holy Spirit

Selection



**Authority**

# Authority: A FUNDAMENTAL of CHRIST

And so we have the prophetic word confirmed, which you do well to heed as a light that shines in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts; knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation, for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.

2 Peter 1:19-21

# Authority: A FUNDAMENTAL of CHRIST

Laying on of Hands = the Transmission of Permission



# Authority: A FUNDAMENTAL of CHRIST

Laying on of Hands = the **Authority of the Bible**



Seeking  
a Blessing

# Receiving God's Blessing

Have you ever  
asked for a blessing?









# Why Seek God's Permission?

If it is a good thing to do?

If it is a bad thing to do?

If it accomplishes God's goal?



# A Lesson From King Saul And A Lesson From King David



# A bad thing to do?

"Thus says the LORD of hosts: 'I will punish Amalek for what he did to Israel, how he ambushed him on the way when he came up from Egypt. 'Now go and attack Amalek, and utterly destroy all that they have, and do not spare them. But kill both man and woman, infant and nursing child, ox and sheep, camel and donkey.'"

1 Samuel 15:2-3

# A good thing to do?

But Saul and the people spared Agag and the best of the sheep, the oxen, the fatlings, the lambs, and all that was good, and were unwilling to utterly destroy them. But everything despised and worthless, that they utterly destroyed.

1 Samuel 15:9

# It accomplishes God's purpose?

And Saul said, "They have brought them from the Amalekites; for the people spared the best of the sheep and the oxen, to sacrifice to the LORD your God; and the rest we have utterly destroyed."

1 Samuel 15:15





Then Samuel said: "Has the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, As in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, And to heed than the fat of rams. For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, And stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Because you have rejected the word of the LORD, He also has rejected you from being king."

1 Samuel 15:22-23

Sometimes it seems  
like a bad idea.....

To discipline unruly brethren

To rely on a free-will collection



Sometimes it seems  
like a good idea.....

To seek a social gospel

To support all good works

To make music we like



Sometimes it seems  
to accomplish God's purpose.....

To broaden "fellowship"

To unify congregation work



# Seeking God's Blessing

"But now your kingdom shall not continue. The LORD has sought for Himself a man after His own heart, and the LORD has commanded him to be commander over His people, because you have not kept what the LORD commanded you."

1 Samuel 13:14



# Seeking God's Blessing

(David) said to Nathan the prophet, "See now, I dwell in a house of cedar, but the ark of God dwells inside tent curtains." Then Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that is in your heart, for the LORD is with you."

2 Samuel 7:2

# Seeking God's Blessing

*“If I had wanted it,  
I would have asked for it”*

# A Desire to be Obedient

Furthermore King David said to all the assembly: "My son Solomon, ..... the temple is not for man but for the LORD God. "

1 Chronicles 29:1

Do you not know that you (*the church*) are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?

1 Corinthians 3:16

# A Question of Love

"If you love Me, keep My commandments"

John 14:15

"He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me

John 14:21

"If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love"

John 15:10

For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments.

1 John 5:3

# A Question of Love

"If you love Me, keep My commandments"

John 14:15

*"I want you to sing"* – Colossians 3:16

*"I want you to worship me"* – Hebrews 10:26

*"I want you to do this on Sunday"* - Acts 20:7

*"I want churches to work independently"* – Titus 1:5

# A Question of Love

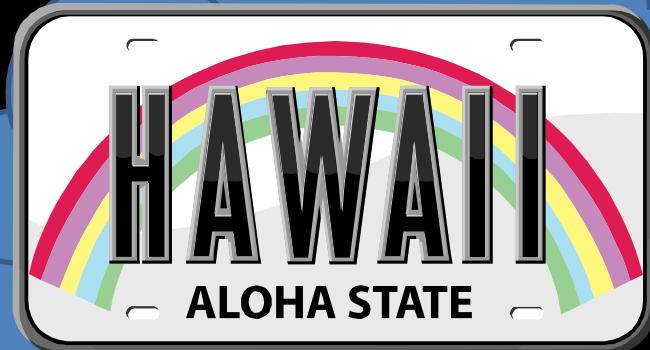




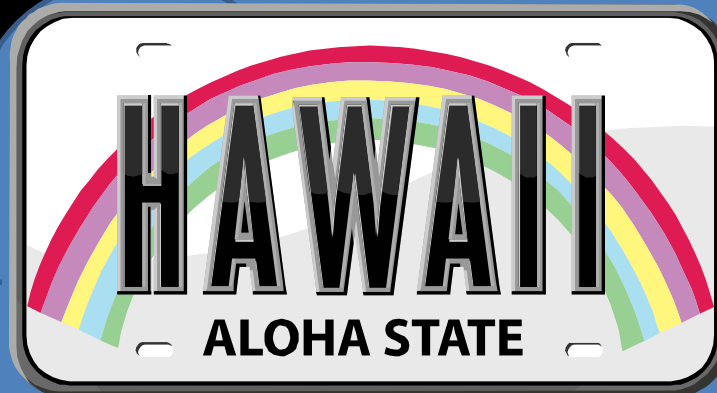
















# Conclusions:

People who love God seek His blessing

People who are loved by God seek His blessing

Seeking His blessing means seeking His authority

God's authority is only found in the Bible

To not seek authority is to not love God