



● Everywhere we turn we deal with authority issues. Why do we have this tendency to “go Lucifer” in big and little ways? Let’s look at some...

I. World Class Authority Challengers.

■ Lucifer.

◇ Lucifer was heaven’s worship leader. God created Lucifer with freedom of choice. *But* Lucifer wanted to usurp God.
📖 Isaiah 14:13b-14; 📖 1 Samuel 15:23a

◇ What makes Satan Satan? *Answer:* The spirit of rebellion.

◇ If we have authority issues, ultimately our issue is with God.

■ Adam and Eve.

◇ God *always* works through authority.

■ The Israelites of the OT. 📖 Exodus 32:9

■ Jonah.

◇ Whenever we “go Lucifer”, it costs us. We are signing up for confusion and chaos whenever we rebel against authority.

II. Basics About Authority.

■ Defined.

- ◇ Authority is a right—the right to decide or to take action in a situation.
- ◇ Authority is a fact. We live in an ordered universe in which there is authority and submission to authority.

■ God is the source of all authority. 📖 Romans 13:1-2; Matthew 22:21b

- ◇ God delegates authority to others.
- ◇ *All* authorities are limited.

■ God has established authority/submission relationships.

- ◇ God and people. 📖 James 4:7
- ◇ Man and nature. 📖 Genesis 1:28
- ◇ Husbands and wives. 📖 Ephesians 5:22–23
- ◇ Parents and children. 📖 Ephesians 6:1
- ◇ Governors and the governed. 📖 1 Peter 2:13–14
- ◇ Employers and employees. 📖 Ephesians 6:5–9; Colossians 3:22; Colossians 4:1; 1 Peter 2:18–20
- ◇ Spiritual leaders and the spiritually led. 📖 Hebrews 13:17

III. Two Benefits of Authority.

■ Authority is all about protection.

■ Authority is all about accelerating my maturity.

- ◇ God has placed authority figures in all of our lives.
- ◇ God is using them to mold and shape you and me into the kind of people He wants us to become.

Homework:

Think about the authority/submission relationships around you wherever you go and make a conscious decision to get under that umbrella.

At Next week: “Get Under It!”