

**Today's Sermons:**

**AM** Lectureship – God’s Plan for Salvation

**PM** Singing Service

**Those Privileged To Serve:**

Announcements: Tim Canp  
 AM Song Leader: Mark Miller  
 AM Prayer: Willard Ellison  
 Lord’s Supper: Tim Winters, David Turnmire,  
 Jim Miller  
 PM Song Leader: Various Men  
 PM Prayer: Leroy Kennell  
 Lord’s Supper: Matthew Winters  
 Wed Song Leader: Bill Powers  
 Wed Invitation: Tim Winters

**Records For Last Week:**

Contribution: \$1142.20  
 Daily Bible Readers: 6  
 Sunday Bible Study: 22  
 AM Worship: 36  
 PM Worship: 30  
 Wednesday Bible Study: 26

**Building Cleaning For Next Sunday:**

Check Calendar

**Prepare Communion For October 2009**

Brenda Ellison



**BIBLE QUESTIONS**

*(Answers Next Week)*

31. To whom did God give the Ten Commandments?
32. Who was Nun?
33. Who offered “strange fire before the Lord”?
34. What giant was killed by a boy with a sling and a stone?
35. In what mountain did Aaron die?
36. In what mountain did Moses die?
37. Who buried Moses?
38. Who succeeded Moses?
39. Who said: “We are verily guilty concerning our brother”?
40. Who said: “If I perish, I perish”?

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<http://www.wjchurchofchrist.org>



*Back to the Bible*

A Weekly Publication of the West Jefferson Church of Christ

Volume II

September 27, 2009

Issue #39

**God, The Ultimate Source of Authority**

By  
**Gene Taylor**

There must be an ultimate, final authority. There has to exist a person or place beyond which there can be no higher source. There has to be a person or place in whom resides inherent authority. That ultimate authority is the source of all authority.

The Criteria for the Ultimate Authority

Bernard Ramm, in his book *Pattern of Authority*, suggests two sources of authority: superior position and truth. He refers to them as "Imperial" and "Veracious" authority. Applying these criteria to God show Him as the source of authority. "He (*God - GT*) alone is self-existent and supreme, who is what He is of His own right. If God exists, He is the ultimate criterion and power of truth and reality. All truth inheres in Him and issues from Him. The problem of authority thus becomes one with the proof and definition of God" (*I.S.B.E.*, Vol. I, p. 334).

**Continued Inside**

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Times of Services:

Sunday

Bible Study:.....10:00am  
 AM Worship:.....11:00am  
 PM Worship:.....6:00pm

Wednesday

Bible Study:.....7:00pm

Radio Program

Sunday:.....9:35am  
 "Back to the Bible"  
 AM 580 WSKS

12<sup>th</sup> Annual Lectureship

"God's Plan for Salvation"  
 September 25-27, 2009

**We Extend A  
 Warm & Cordial  
 Welcome  
 To All Our Visitors!**

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- OCTOBER 4 – MEN’S BUSINESS MEETING FOLLOWING EVENING SERVICES
- OCTOBER 4- LADIE’S BIBLE CLASS FOLLOWING EVENING SERVICES
- OCTOBER 12 – SINGING AT MARGATE HEALTH & REHAB – 6:30 PM

### Those Needing Our Prayers:

*“The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much” (James 5:16).*



Leroy & Minnie Kennell  
Lectureship  
Tosha Miller  
Mark Bass (India)  
Wanda Pless  
David Vannoy  
Mable Vannoy  
Larry ham  
Jerry & Khela Domanque  
Kaleb Davis  
Edgar & Dorothy Wilcox  
Mildred Turner  
Steven Winters

Eugene Kidder  
Tom & Della Jones  
Lonnie Blevins  
Velma McMillan  
Linda Powers  
Mildred Turner  
Keith Vannoy  
Tammy Fagan & Family  
Becky Venable  
Emma Hodges  
Michael Wilcox & Family  
Savannah Bedenbaugh  
Amanda Winters

Mary Turner  
Pam Williams  
Kiana Miller  
Gertie Scalf  
Pete Pless  
David Turnmire  
Debbie Cretsinger  
Leeza Davis  
Verna Lewis  
Bill Powers  
Jesse Matkins & Family  
Jim Winters

### Our Shut- Ins

Mary Turner – Margate Health & Rehab; Room #415A, 540 Waugh St., Jefferson, NC 28640

## Answers to Last Week's Bible Questions

21. **Aaron.** Three Years. Exodus 7:7.
22. **Moses.** Exodus 2:6; Acts 7:20.
23. **Moses.** Exodus 4:11.
24. **Zipporah.** Exodus 2:21.
25. **Seven days.** Exodus 12:14-21.
26. **Israelites.** Exodus 12:43-49.
27. **In the kingdom.** Luke 22:29-30.
28. **Corinthian.** 1 Corinthians 11.
29. **No.** 1 Timothy 3:15.
30. **Exodus 16:29.**



*How did you do? Did you get them all?*

### God as Ultimate Authority

That God is ultimate authority is seen in His divine being. He has inherent authority because He is God ([1 Cor. 15:24-28](#)).

The divine names for God indicate His primary authority ([Psa. 96:8](#)): **El Elyon** - God most high ([Gen. 4:18](#)); **El Shaddai** - God Almighty ([Ex. 6:3](#)); **Yahweh** (Jehovah), His memorial name ([Hos. 12:5-6](#)). "Jehovah" means "Self-Existent or Eternal" (*Strong's Hebrew-Chaldee Dictionary*, p. 47). It is related to the designation "I am" ([Ex. 3:14](#)). It is significant that Jesus said of Himself, "Before Abraham was, I am" ([John 8:58](#)), thus showing His divinity, His right to command.

The authority of God is rooted in His inherent nature and character: His eternal existence ([Deut. 33:27](#)); omniscience -- limitless wisdom and knowledge ([1 Sam. 2:3](#); [1 John 3:20](#)); omnipotence -- matchless power and strength ([Rev. 19:6](#); [Heb. 11:3](#)); and perfect holiness and righteousness ([1 Pet. 1:16](#); [Titus 1:2](#)).

God is the ultimate authority by reason of the fact that He is both creator and sustainer of the entire universe ([Gen. 1:1](#); [Acts 17:24-29](#)). All things were created by Him and for Him and by Him all things consist ([Col. 1:16-17](#)).

### Some Consequences of God as Ultimate Authority

God alone has the inherent right to command. The only kind of authority mankind has is delegated authority. No human has either the right or power to assume to be on an equality with God ([Isa. 55:8-9](#)). Delegated authority is restricted by stipulated purpose or intent.

Earthly governments receive their right to make and enforce civil law from God ([Rom. 13:1](#)).

The right to enact religious law does not reside in man. It never has and never will. Man cannot set forth his own ideas and opinions as the standard for others to follow. Even the apostles were never anything more than inspired messengers sent to deliver a divine message. For them to have taught or commanded anything other than that which heaven had revealed to them would have caused them to be accursed ([Gal. 1:6-9](#)).