

Is It Right? 2Peter 1:16-21

How Do I Know My Action Is Right?

A concern in all areas of life

Generally, understand need for authority in action

Laws, regulations, even how-tos

Especially necessary for legal matters

Even more so for eternity - **2Peter 1:16-21**

God gave Christ all authority

Christ has Words of eternal life - "To Whom Shall We Go?" - **Ephesians 1:22-23; Hebrews 1:1-4**

Christ's Word delivered to inspired men - **John 14:26; 16:13-15**

New Testament contains that Word - **2Peter 1:12-15; 3:14-16; 1John 2:1-2; Jude 3**

How Do We Establish Authority?

Same method used in any other field of study

Command-Example-Necessary Inference

Precept-Example-Implication

Statement-Action-Reason

Demonstrated by early christians - **Acts 15**

James - Statement from God through prophet (**15-18**)

Peter - Example of Cornelius (**7-10**)

Paul and Barnabas - God's approval of their actions (**12**)

How Specific Is The Instruction?

Generic-Specific / Inclusive-Exclusive

Important for understanding what is required/allowed.

First - When? Who? To Whom? What?

Then - Required? Allowed? Excluded?

Consider Jesus' instruction to the 11 - **Matthew 28:16-20**

Go - broad, inclusive

Make disciples - narrow, exclusive

Baptizing them in the name of the Father, Son & Holy Spirit - narrow, exclusive focus; general location

Teaching them to observe all that I commanded you - narrow, exclusive subject; general method, location

Each teaching must be evaluated for full understanding.

God Delivered His Word

We must establish God's Will for anything we do - **John 12:44-50; Colossians 3:17**

Must not be from men - **Matthew 21:23-27; 1John 4:1**

Must not be from traditions and creeds of men - **2Timothy 4:2**

Must not be from mind of elders - **Acts 20:28-32**

Authority Must Come From God Thru Christ

Must not be from Old Testament - **Galatians 5:4**

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