

➤ *Even Human Institutions***1 Peter 2:13–17**

¹³ ***Be subject for the Lord's sake to every human institution***, whether it be to the emperor as supreme, ¹⁴ or to governors as sent by him to punish those who do evil and to praise those who do good. ¹⁵ For this is the will of God, that by doing good you should put to silence the ignorance of foolish people. ¹⁶ Live as people who are free, not using your freedom as a cover-up for evil, but living as servants of God. ¹⁷ Honor everyone. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the emperor.

➤ Pictures to Help Us Picture the Beauty of God's Ways

- Authority/Submission Dance
- Head and Crown

Proverbs 4:8–9 (Wisdom Personified as a Wife)

⁸ **Prize her highly, and she will exalt you**; she will honor you if you embrace her. ⁹ *She will place on your head a graceful garland; she will bestow on you a beautiful crown.*

“If we were really living this way, it could never be that ‘those Christian men browbeat their wives.’ A more plausible slander would be that Christian men glorify their wives to the point of encouraging vanity. Let us not fall into that saying of vanity—but we should be careful to live in a way that provokes the slander.” ⁱⁱⁱ

Key Idea:

There is no doubt that God has called us to imitate His glorious authority & submission. We do this by (obediently) exercising godly, servant authority and (obediently) fearless, joyful submission. Prayerfully obey the example of our savior.

ⁱ Duguid, I. M., & Hughes, R. K. (2006). *Numbers: God's presence in the wilderness* (p. 204). Wheaton, IL: Crossway Books.

ⁱⁱ Wilson, Douglas. For a Glory and a Covering: A Practical Theology of Marriage. (p. 40). Canon Press. Kindle Edition.

ⁱⁱⁱ Ibid. (p. 38)

In the Wilderness: The Book of Numbers

[#19 in Series] (Numbers 15–25) *Forty Years in the Wilderness: Part 4 Beautiful Authority* – Numbers 16-17

Sermon Outline – August 23, 2015**Children's Sermon/Introduction**

❖ Jesus the Servant King

Psalm 40:7–8

⁷ Then I said, “Behold, I have come; *in the scroll of the book it is written of me*: ⁸ ***I delight to do your will, O my God; your law is within my heart.***”

*Review: (A Warning against Folly)****The Leadership Rebellion (16-17)***

Korah assumed that leadership was all about **status and privilege**, Dathan and Abiram declared that it was about **power**... None of them understood **Biblical leadership**, which is about **divine calling to service**.ⁱ (Mark up Mine)

- **Korah's Rebellion (16:3-11) Status**
- **Dathan and Abiram's Rebellion (16:12-15) Power**
- Who would dare approach God without being called? (Jeremiah 30:21)
- Who would dare to refuse God's call? (Jeremiah 18:11–12)

*Transition: (A Call to Wisdom)***Key Idea:**

God has called us to imitate his glory by exercising godly authority and fearless, joyful submission. Prayerfully obey the example of our savior.

2 Corinthians 10:5

⁵ We destroy arguments and every *lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God*, and **take every thought captive to obey Christ**... (Cf. 2 Cor. 4:4–6)

Notes:

The Beauty of God's Plan for Authority & Submission

Shadow (Moses & Aaron)... Substance (Jesus)... Ever Increasing Glory (Us)

2 Corinthians 3:18

¹⁸ And ***we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another.*** ...

The Shadow: (Moses & Aaron)

Numbers 16:11, 28

¹¹ Therefore *it is against the Lord* that you and all your company have gathered together. What is Aaron that you grumble against him?” ...

²⁸ And Moses said, “Hereby you shall know that *the Lord has sent me* to do all these works, and that it has not been of my own accord.

The Substance: (Jesus)

John 12:44–45, 48–49 (ESV)

⁴⁴ And Jesus cried out and said, “Whoever believes in me, believes not in me but in him who sent me. ⁴⁵ And whoever sees me sees him who sent me. ... ⁴⁸ The one who rejects me and does not receive my words has a judge; the word that I have spoken will judge him on the last day. ⁴⁹ For I have not spoken on my own authority, but the Father who sent me has himself given me a commandment—what to say and what to speak.

We Are Rebelling Against Something Beautiful

➤ *God Has Called All of Us to Represent Him...*

Ephesians 5:1–2 (Where Wisdom Blooms!)

¹ Therefore *be imitators of God*, as beloved children. ² And *walk in love, as Christ loved us* and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

Matthew 10:40

⁴⁰ “Whoever receives you receives me, and whoever receives me receives him who sent me.

➤ *God Has also Called Us to Specific Roles to Play*

Not Status or Power but Calling & Service (i.e. Love)

Masculine Roles	Feminine Rolls
Authority	Submission
Sacrifice	Obedience
Responsibility	Gratitude
Initiative	Responsiveness

“So, let’s see how this plays out. God the Father is masculine with regard to God the Son. Remember that we are taught to call him ‘father.’ And God the Son is described as being masculine toward us, His bride, the Church. He is the

bridegroom, and we are the bride. And remember here that a good half of the bride is made up of males. The Church, though half male, is still corporately feminine. In marriage, the man is the head of the woman, and so in this relation, he is masculine and she is feminine. But take this one step further— imagine a godly Christian mother facing down a defiant, two-year-old son. She is female, he is male, but is that the end of the story? Not at all. She is masculine in this relation, and he is feminine. The source of the trouble in this instance may be the fact that he does not want to be feminine.”ⁱⁱ

○ *But What About Galatians 3:28 and...?*

Matthew 23:8–12

⁸ But you are not to be called rabbi, for you have one teacher, and you are all brothers. ⁹ And call no man your father on earth, for you have one Father, who is in heaven. ¹⁰ Neither be called instructors, for you have one instructor, the Christ. ¹¹ *The greatest among you shall be your servant.* ¹² Whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted.

○ *How* does God “raise up” leaders in the Church? (Word & Spirit)

Philippians 3:17

Brothers, *join in imitating me*, and *keep your eyes on those who walk according to the example you have in us.*

Acts 6:3

Therefore, brothers, pick out from among you seven *men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom*, whom we will appoint to this duty. (Cf. 1 Timothy 3:1–13; Titus 1:5–9)

○ *God Calls* Some to have Authority in the Home...

Ephesians 6:1

Children, *obey your parents in the Lord*, for this is right.

1 Corinthians 11:3

³ But I want you to understand that *the head of every man is Christ, the head of a wife is her husband*, and *the head of Christ is God.*