

Ephesians Series

Lesson #247

September 15, 2024

Dean Bible Ministries

www.deanbibleministries.org

© 2024, Dr. Robert L. Dean, Jr.

The Seriousness of Obedience to Authority

Ephesians 5:21



EPHESIANS

THE WEALTH, WALK
& WARFARE
OF THE BELIEVER

Eph. 5:18, “And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but **be filled by means of the Spirit,”**

πληρόω plēroō
2 plur pres
pass impera
to fill; fulfill

*ἐν πνεύματι, en
pneumati,*
dative, means,
“by means of
the Spirit”

Col. 3:16, “Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you along with all wisdom, **with the results that you are teaching and admonishing one another with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.” [RD]**

Results:

Eph. 5:19, “with the result that you are speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord,

Eph. 5:20, “with the result that you are giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,

Eph. 5:21, “with the result that you are submitting to one another in the fear of God.”

Eph. 5:21, “with the result that you are submitting to one another in the fear of God.”

Eph. 5:21, “with the result that you are submitting to one another in the fear of God.”

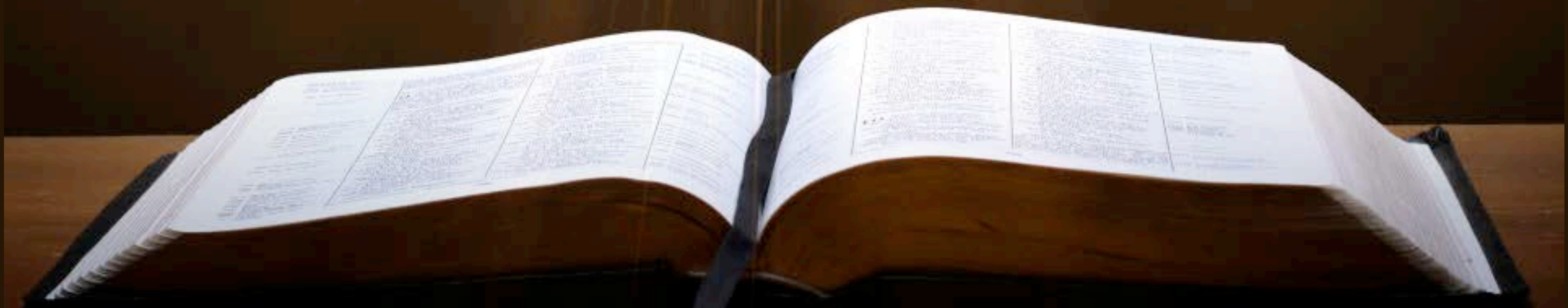
1. Submission

2. One another

3. What does “fear of God” have to do with it?

**What the Bible Teaches
About**

Fear of the Lord



1. The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.

Prov. 1:7, “The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and instruction.”

Prov. 1:27, “When your terror comes like a storm, and your destruction comes like a whirlwind, when distress and anguish come upon you.

Prov. 1:28, “Then they will call on me, but I will not answer; They will seek me diligently, but they will not find me.

Prov. 1:29, “Because they hated knowledge and did not choose the fear of the LORD,”

Eph. 5:22, “Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord.”

Eph. 5:25, “Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her,”

Eph. 6:1, “Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right.”

Eph. 6:4, “And you, fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord.”

Eph. 6:5, “Bondservants, be obedient to those who are your masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in sincerity of heart, as to Christ;”

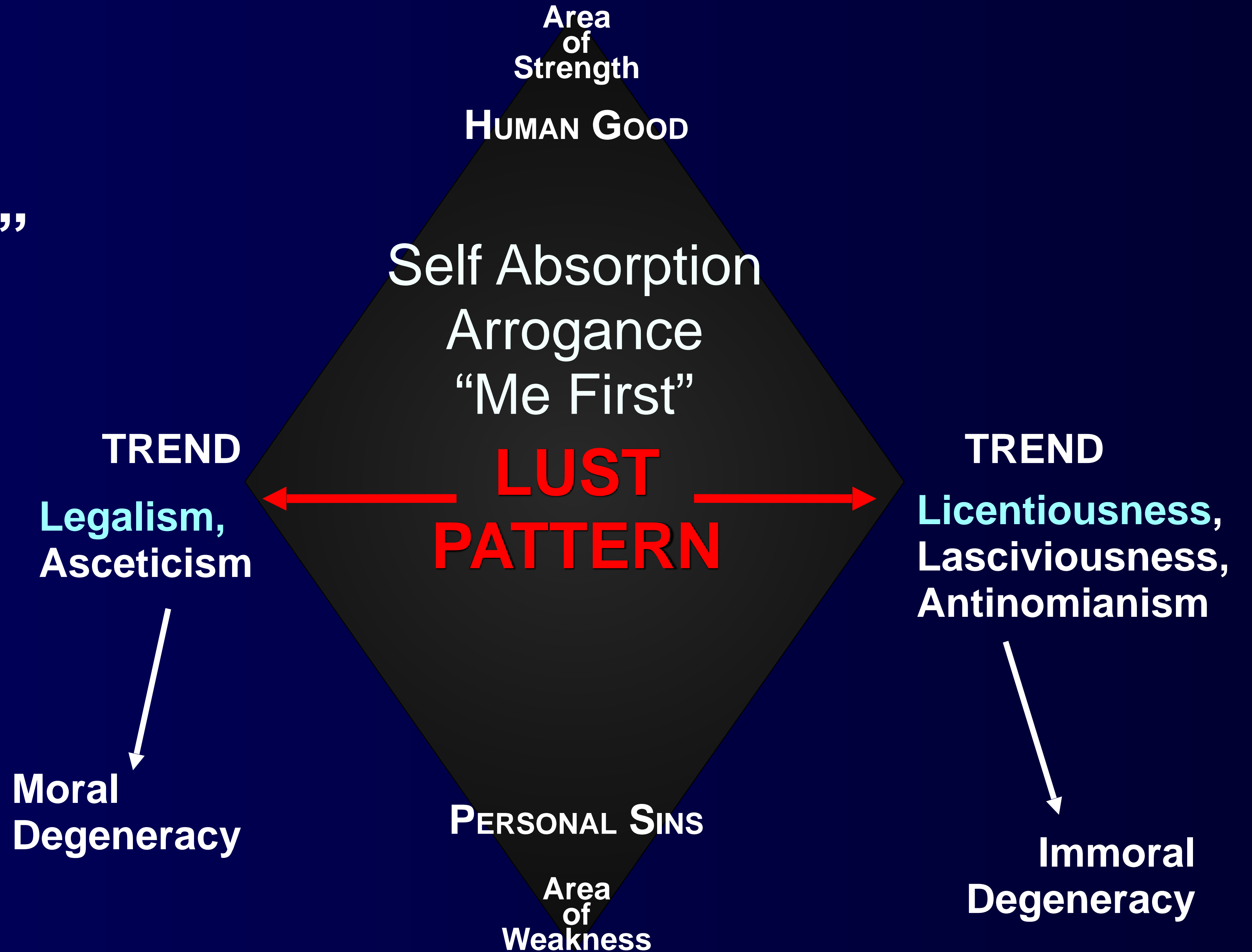
**What the Bible Teaches
About**

Spheres of Authority



The problem:

THE SIN NATURE “the flesh”



The problem: Sin nature lust for approval, recognition, power, authority.

Matt. 20:20, “Then the mother of Zebedee’s sons came to Him with her sons, kneeling down and asking something from Him.

Matt. 20:21, “And He said to her, ‘What do you wish?’ She said to Him, ‘Grant that these two sons of mine may sit, one on Your right hand and the other on the left, in Your kingdom.’ ” [NKJV]

Jesus' Answer

Matt. 20:22, “But Jesus answered and said, ‘You do not know what you ask. Are you able to drink the cup that I am about to drink, and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?’ They said to Him, ‘We are able.’”

Matt. 20:23, “So He said to them, ‘You will indeed drink My cup, and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with; but to sit on My right hand and on My left is not Mine to give, but it is for those for whom it is prepared by My Father.’ ” [NKJV]

Matt. 20:24, “And when the ten heard it, they were greatly displeased with the two brothers.

Matt. 20:25, “But Jesus called them to Himself and said, ‘You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and those who are great exercise authority over them.’ ” [NKJV]

**κατεξουσιάζω *katexousiazō*
3 plur pres act indic
to rule over in the sense
of misusing authority, or
to tyrannize**

**κατακυριεύω *katakyrieuō*,
rule over, subjugate,
conquer, be master of,
lord it over**

Matt. 20:26, “ ‘Yet it shall not be so among you; but whoever desires to become great among you, let him be your servant.

Matt. 20:27, “ ‘And whoever desires to be first among you, let him be your slave—

δοῦλος *doulos* slave; servant

Matt. 20:28, “ ‘just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.’ ”
[NKJV]

διακονέω *diakoneō*, serve, support

Php. 2:7, “Instead He emptied Himself by taking on the form of a slave (servant), by taking on the likeness of men. (And when He had come as a man, human in His external form [true humanity]),” [RD]

Conclusion:

- 1. God institutes spheres of authority within the creation.**
- 2. Because of sin, legitimate authorities frequently misuse and abuse that authority, they exercise their authority in an illegitimate manner.**
- 3. Does this mean that those who are under those authorities have the right to disobey those authorities?**

1. There is authority in the Godhead.

John 5:19, “Then Jesus answered and said to them, ‘Most assuredly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of Himself, but what He sees the Father do; for whatever He does, the Son also does in like manner.’ ”

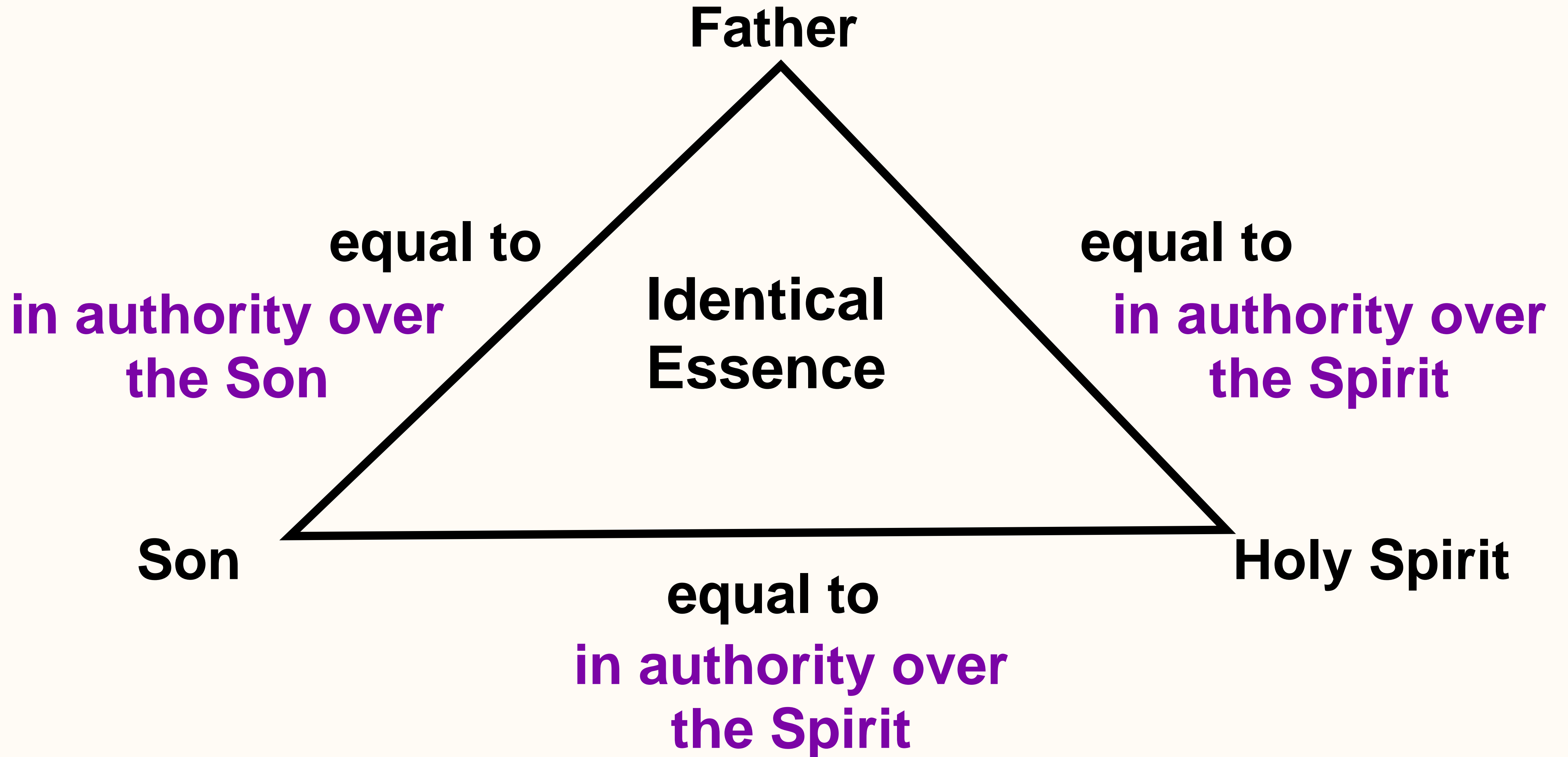
John 5:26, “ ‘For as the Father has life in Himself, so He has granted the Son to have life in Himself,’ ”

John 5:30, “ ‘I can of Myself do nothing. As I hear, I judge; and My judgment is righteous, because I do not seek My own will but the will of the Father who sent Me.’ ”

John 5:37, “ ‘And the Father Himself, who sent Me, has testified of Me. You have neither heard His voice at any time, nor seen His form.’ ”

John 8:28, “Then Jesus said to them, ‘When you lift up the Son of Man, then you will know that I am He, and that I do nothing of Myself; but as My Father taught Me, I speak these things.’ ”

Authority in the Triune Relationships



Authority Over the Holy Spirit

John 14:26, “But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.

John 15:26, “But when the Helper comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify of Me.”

John 16:7, “Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you.”

2. The authority of God as Creator over His creation.

Rom. 8:20, “For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it in hope;” [NKJV]

Eventually God puts all under the authority of the Son.

1 Cor. 15:27, “For ‘He has put all things under His feet.’ But when He says ‘all things are put under Him,’ it is evident that He who put all things under Him is excepted.

1 Cor. 15:28, “Now when all things are made subject to Him, then the Son Himself will also be subject to Him who put all things under Him, that God may be all in all.”

Heb. 2:8, “ ‘You have put all things in subjection under his feet.’ For in that He put all in subjection under him, He left nothing that is not put under him. But now we do not yet see all things put under him.” [NKJV]

2. God has instituted human government, the fourth Divine Institution (DI).

Gen. 9:6, “Whoever sheds man’s blood, by man his blood shall be shed; For in the image of God He made man.”

2. God has instituted human government, the fourth DI.

Rom. 13:1, “Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God.”

Rom. 13:3, “For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to evil. Do you want to be unafraid of the authority? Do what is good, and you will have praise from the same.

Rom. 13:4, “For he is God’s minister to you for good. But if you do evil, be afraid; for he does not bear the sword in vain; for he is God’s minister, an avenger to execute wrath on him who practices evil.” [NKJV]

3. Authority in the marriage

4. Authority in the home

5. Authority in the workplace

Why Does the Bible Place Such an Emphasis on:

Authority

Leadership

Obedience

Disobedience

Rebellion?

The first disobedience.

Isa. 14:12, “ ‘How you are fallen from heaven, O *Helel, ben Shachar!* How you are cut down to the ground, you who weakened the nations!

Isa. 14:13, “ ‘For you have said in your heart: “I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God; I will also sit on the mount of the congregation on the farthest sides of the north;

Isa. 14:14, “ ‘I will ascend above the heights of the clouds, I will be like the Most High.’ ”

Ezek. 28:12, “ ‘Son of man, take up a lamentation for the king of Tyre, and say to him, “Thus says the Lord GOD: ‘You were the seal of perfection, full of wisdom and perfect in beauty.

Ezek. 28:13, “ ‘ “ ‘You were in Eden, the garden of God; Every precious stone was your covering: The sardius, topaz, and diamond, beryl, onyx, and jasper, sapphire, turquoise, and emerald with gold. The workmanship of your timbrels and pipes was prepared for you on the day you were created.

Ezek. 28:14, “ ‘ “ ‘You were the anointed cherub who covers; I established you; You were on the holy mountain of God; You walked back and forth in the midst of fiery stones.

Ezek. 28:15, “ ‘ “ ‘You were perfect in your ways from the day you were created, till iniquity was found in you.’ ” ’ ”

Ezek. 28:16, “ ‘ “ ‘By the abundance of your trading you became filled with violence within, and you sinned; Therefore I cast you as a profane thing out of the mountain of God; And I destroyed you, O covering cherub, from the midst of the fiery stones.

Ezek. 28:17, “ ‘ “ ‘Your heart was lifted up because of your beauty; You corrupted your wisdom for the sake of your splendor; I cast you to the ground, I laid you before kings, that they might gaze at you.

Ezek. 28:18, “ ‘ “ ‘You defiled your sanctuaries by the multitude of your iniquities, by the iniquity of your trading; Therefore I brought fire from your midst; It devoured you, and I turned you to ashes upon the earth in the sight of all who saw you.’ ” ’ ”

The Next Significant Disobedience

**Gen. 2:16, “And the LORD God commanded the man, saying,
‘Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat;**

**Gen. 2:17, “ ‘but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil
you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall
surely die.’ ”**

Gen. 3:1, “Now the serpent was more cunning than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said to the woman, ‘Has God indeed said, “You shall not eat of every tree of the garden”?’”

Gen. 3:2, “And the woman said to the serpent, ‘We may eat the fruit of the trees of the garden;

Gen. 3:3, “ ‘but of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God has said, “You shall not eat it, nor shall you touch it, lest you die.” ’ ”

Gen. 3:4, “Then the serpent said to the woman, ‘You will not surely die.

Gen. 3:5, “ ‘For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.’

Gen. 3:6, “So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree desirable to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate. She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate.

Gen. 3:7, “Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves coverings.”

Gen. 3:8, “And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden.

Gen. 3:9, “Then the LORD God called to Adam and said to him, ‘Where are you?’

Gen. 3:10, “So he said, ‘I heard Your voice in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; and I hid myself.’

Gen. 3:11, “And He said, ‘Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you that you should not eat?’ ”

Gen. 3:12, “Then the man said, ‘The woman whom You gave to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I ate.’”

Gen. 3:13, “And the LORD God said to the woman, ‘What is this you have done?’ The woman said, ‘The serpent deceived me, and I ate.’”

Gen. 3:14, “So the LORD God said to the serpent: ‘Because you have done this, you are cursed more than all cattle, and more than every beast of the field; On your belly you shall go, and you shall eat dust all the days of your life.

Gen. 3:15, “ ‘And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise His heel.’

Gen. 3:16, “To the woman He said: ‘I will greatly multiply your sorrow and your conception; In pain you shall bring forth children; Your desire shall be for your husband, and he shall rule over you.’ ”

**What the Bible Teaches
About**

**God's View of Rebellion
Against Legitimate
Authority**



1 Sam. 15:23, “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.”