

Does Bible Silence **Permit**?

or

Does Bible Silence **Forbid**?

# BIBLE SILENCE FORBIDS

Authority – “the right to command and enforce obedience or administer punishment”

**1) Primary** authority

**2) Delegated** authority

# God (Father) ⇒ Primary authority

## 1 Corinthians 11:3

3 But I want you to know that the head of every man is Christ, the head of woman is man, and **the head of Christ is God.**



# Jesus ⇨ Delegated authority

## Matthew 28:18

18 And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "**All authority has been given to Me** in heaven and on earth.

## Matthew 11:27

27 All things have been **delivered to Me by My Father**, ...

# Apostles ⇒ Delegated authority

## Matthew 16:18-19

18 And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.

19 And **I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven**, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven."



# Apostles ⇒ Delegated authority

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# Apostles ⇒ Delegated authority

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18 And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.

19 And I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth ***will [already] be bound in heaven***, and whatever you loose on earth ***will [already] be loosed in heaven.***"



# Apostles ⇒ “Ambassadors”

## 2 Corinthians 5:20

20 Now then, **we** [apostles] **are ambassadors for Christ**, as though God were pleading through us: **we** implore **you** on Christ’s behalf, be reconciled to God.

**Ambassador** – an official representative of the king.



# Apostles ⇒ “Ambassadors”

## 1 John 4:6

6 **We** [apostles] are of God. **He** who knows God hears **us**; **he** who is not of God does not hear **us**. By this we know the spirit of truth and the spirit of error.

# AUTHORIZATION

## Colossians 3:17

17 And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.



# AUTHORIZATION

## Colossians 3:17

17 And **whatever** you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.



“everything or anything”

# AUTHORIZATION

## Colossians 3:17

17 And whatever you do in **word** or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.



“word” = say / teach



# AUTHORIZATION

## Colossians 3:17

17 And whatever you do in **word** or **deed**, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.



"word" = say / teach

"deed" = do / practice

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“by the authority of Jesus” (Act 4:7, 10, 12)



# AUTHORITY FROM THE LORD



1) **The Lord Himself**

2) **The Apostles** (Ambassadors)

# WRITTEN AUTHORIZATION

“I feel the Lord is leading me to ...”

“I’m waiting to see where the Lord is going to lead me ...”



# WRITTEN AUTHORIZATION

## John 16:13

13 [Jesus said to His apostles] when He, **the Spirit of truth**, has come, **He will guide you into all truth**; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come.

# WRITTEN AUTHORIZATION

- 1) If the Spirit revealed "all truth."
- 2) If the apostles wrote it down.
- 3) If their writings were preserved.
- 4) Then, no further need for revelation.



1) Peter confirmed all truth was revealed.

2 Peter 1:3

3 as His divine power has given to us **all things** that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue,

## 2) Paul confirmed all truth was written down.

### 2 Timothy 3:16-17

16 All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness,

17 that the man of God may be **complete, thoroughly equipped** for **every good work.**



### 3) Peter confirmed these writings were preserved.

#### 1 Peter 1:24-25

24 because "All flesh is as grass, And all the glory of man as the flower of the grass. The grass withers, And its flower falls away,

25 But **the word of the LORD endures forever.**" Now this is the word which by **the gospel** was preached to you.

# WRITTEN AUTHORIZATION

- 1) If the Spirit revealed "all truth."
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# THE ALL-SUFFICIENT WORD

Since the scriptures make us **complete**, **thoroughly equipped** for **every good work** ... when the scriptures are silent, they are silent on purpose.

**Legislative silence** – when the law is purposefully silent about an action and that silence is viewed as expressing the intent of the lawmaker.

# God's Complete Will

2 Tim 3:16-17

“Complete”

“Thoroughly equipped”

“EVERY good work”



Add



## Galatians 1:8

8 But even if we, or an angel from heaven, preach **any other gospel** to you than what we have preached to you, let him be **accursed**.

## Revelation 22:18

18 For I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: **If anyone adds to these things**, God will add to him the plagues that are written in this book;

# TWO WAYS OF TEACHING

**1) Explicitly**

**2) Implicitly**



**Explicit** – “fully and clearly expressed; leaving nothing implied”

### **1 Timothy 4:1**

1 Now the Spirit **expressly says** that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons,

**Implicit** – “implied or understood though not directly expressed”

**Mark 12:26-27**

26 But concerning the dead, that they rise, have you not read in the book of Moses, in the burning bush passage, how God spoke to him, saying, **‘I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob’**?

27 He is not the God of the dead, but the God of the living. You are therefore greatly mistaken.”



# WHAT IS SILENCE?

- Absence of all **explicit** teaching.
- Absence of all **implicit** teaching.

(NOTE: **Implication is not silence.**)



# "BUILD AN ARK"

(Gen 6)

- Implied **measuring** devices.
- Implied **wood-cutting** devices.
- Implied **wood-hauling** devices.
- Implied **nails** and **rope**.

# SILENCE FORBIDS

## 1) Cain & Abel



## Genesis 4:1-5

1 Now Adam knew Eve his wife, and she conceived and bore Cain, and said, "I have acquired a man from the LORD."

2 Then she bore again, this time his brother Abel. Now Abel was a keeper of sheep, but Cain was a tiller of the ground.

3 And in the process of time it came to pass that **Cain brought an offering of the fruit of the ground to the LORD.**

4 Abel also brought of the firstborn of his flock and of their fat. And the LORD respected Abel and his offering,

5 but **He did not respect Cain and his offering.** And Cain was very angry, and his countenance fell.



# SILENCE FORBIDS

1) Cain & Abel

**2) Nadab & Abihu**

## Leviticus 10:1-2

1 Then Nadab and Abihu, the sons of Aaron, each took his censer and put fire in it, put incense on it, and offered profane fire before the LORD, **which He had not commanded them.**

2 So fire went out from the LORD and devoured them, and they died before the LORD.

# SILENCE FORBIDS

1) Cain & Abel

2) Nadab & Abihu

**3) The apostles & elders**



## Acts 15:23-24

23 [The Jerusalem church] wrote this letter:

The apostles, the elders, and the brethren,

To the brethren who are of the Gentiles in Antioch,  
Syria, and Cilicia:

Greetings.

24 Since we have heard that some who went out from us have troubled you with words, unsettling your souls, saying, "You must be circumcised and keep the law" — to whom **we gave no such commandment.**

# SILENCE FORBIDS

- 1) Cain & Abel
- 2) Nadab & Abihu
- 3) The apostles & elders
- 4) Book of Hebrews**



## Hebrews 1

5 For **to which of the angels did He ever say:**

"You are My Son,  
Today I have begotten You"?

And again:

"I will be to Him a Father,  
And He shall be to Me a Son"?

13 But **to which of the angels has He ever said:**

"Sit at My right hand,  
Till I make Your enemies Your footstool"?



## Hebrews 7

14 For it is evident that our Lord arose from Judah, of which tribe **Moses spoke nothing** concerning priesthood.

12 For the priesthood being changed, of necessity there is also a change of the law.

# SIX POSSIBILITIES

## EXPLICITLY

1) Required (Acts 2:38)

2) Permitted (Rom 14:5)

3) Prohibited (1 Cor 14:34)

## IMPLICITLY

4) Required (Ex 20:8)

5) Permitted (Eph 4:28)

6) Prohibited (Gal 5:19)



# THE “EXPLICIT-ONLY” DOCTRINE

F. L. Lemley:

Since **all inferences are of human origin**, unless we want to hold on to human patterns we should discard necessary inference as poor pattern material. (Warren, When Is Example Binding?, 91)

Any time a process of **human reasoning or deduction** has to intervene between the word and a conclusion, the conclusion is **human** and not divine, and therefore cannot be (even when true) a part of the New Testament pattern. (ibid., 90)

# THE “EXPLICIT-ONLY” DOCTRINE

F. L. Lemley:

Only those examples that are objects of direct command are binding on us. (ibid., 91)

**Q:** How did F. L. Lemley reach this conclusion?



## WHAT MAKES SOMETHING WRONG?

- 1) Teaching 70 virgins await Jihad suicide-bombers in the next life?
- 2) Unmarried, fatherless teenage "elders"?
- 3) Crowning a Pope as head of church?
- 4) Infant baptism?
- 5) Sprinkling?
- 6) Teaching sinners to "accept Jesus as personal Savior" without baptism?

## WHAT MAKES SOMETHING WRONG?

**7) Mechanical instruments of music?**

**8) Individual communion cups?**

9) Fermented wine in communion?

10) Water in communion?

11) Plurality of loaves in communion?

12) Second-offering of communion on Sunday?

13) Transporting communion to the sick?



# WHAT MAKES SOMETHING WRONG?

**14) Bible classes?**

15) Choirs?

16) Handclapping in church?

17) Gambling?

## THESE THINGS ARE AUTHORIZED:

- 1) Weekly communion on first day of week (Acts 20:7).
- 2) Salvation by faith plus baptism (Mk 16:16).
- 3) Women remain silent in church (1 Cor 14:34-35).
- 4) A cappella singing (Eph 5:19).
- 5) One communion cup (1 Cor 11:25).
- 6) Unfermented grape juice (Mt 26:29).
- 7) One unbroken loaf (1 Cor 10:16-17).
- 8) One offering of Lord's supper on first day (Acts 20:7).



## **THESE THINGS ARE AUTHORIZED:**

- 9) One undivided assembly (1 Cor 14:23-40).
- 10) Congregational singing (1 Cor 14:15; Eph 5:19).

## CONCLUSION

- 1) Must have scripture authorization for everything we do (Col 3:17).
- 2) Cannot think beyond what is written (1 Cor 4:6).
- 3) Cannot have fellowship with those who “go beyond” the doctrine of Christ (2 Jn 9-11).
- 4) Any other gospel – accursed (Gal 1:8-9).
- 5) Unauthorized worship vain (Mt 15:9).



## Matthew 5:19

19 "Whoever therefore breaks one of **the least of these commandments**, and teaches men so, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but **whoever does and teaches them**, he shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

**Where the Bible speaks, we speak**

(1 Pet 4:11).

**Where the Bible is silent, we are silent**

(Gal 1:8-9).