
Port Orchard Church of Christ

Where

Jesus is Lord, Jesus is Lifted, Jesus is Lived

Biblical Authority pt. 4: All Authority is God's Authority By: NT Wright

So, secondly within the first half of this lecture, I want to suggest that scripture's own view of authority focuses on the authority of God himself. (I recall a well-known lecturer once insisting that 'there can be no authority other than scripture', and thumping the tub so completely that I wanted to ask 'but what about God?') If we think for a moment what we are actually saying when we use the phrase 'authority of scripture', we must surely acknowledge that this is a shorthand way of saying that, though authority belongs to God, God has somehow invested this authority in scripture. And that is a complex claim. It is not straightforward. When people use the phrase 'authority of scripture' they very often do not realize this. Worse, they often treat the word 'authority' as the absolute, the fixed point, and make the word 'scripture' the thing which is moving around trying to find a home against it. In other words, they think they know what authority is and then they say that scripture is that thing.

I want to suggest that we should try it the other way around. Supposing we said that we know what scripture is (we have it here, after all), and that we should try and discover what authority might be in the light of that. Granted that this is the book that we actually have,

and that we want to find out what its 'authority' might mean, we need perhaps to forswear our too-ready ideas about 'authority' and let them be remolded in the light of scripture itself—not just in the light of the biblical statements about authority but in the light of the whole Bible, or the whole New Testament, itself. What are we saying about the concept of 'authority' itself if we assert that this book—not the book we are so good at turning this book into—is 'authoritative'?

Beginning, though, with explicit scriptural evidence about authority itself, we find soon enough—this is obvious but is often ignored—that all authority does indeed belong to God. 'In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth'. God says this, God says that, and it is done. Now if that is not authoritative, I don't know what is. God calls Abraham; he speaks authoritatively. God exercises authority in great dynamic events (in Exodus, the Exile and Return). In the New Testament, we discover that authority is ultimately invested in Christ: 'all authority has been given to me in heaven and on earth'. Then, perhaps to our surprise, authority is invested in the apostles: Paul wrote whole letters in order to make this point crystal clear (in a manner of speaking). This authority, we

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Welcome Guests

We are so glad that you decided to try out Port Orchard Church of Christ this morning! Since you took this step to join us for worship, I would like to give you a warm welcome to our congregation. Wherever you are this morning, as we lift worship to God, I pray that you are able to leave feeling uplifted, convicted, or encouraged in your faith.

We seek here to worship God like the first century church did, with a sense of awe and with a

fear of the Lord. Some things we do might seem old fashioned or traditional, but we want you to know that at its core, it is for the praise of God's glory.

You are not required to do anything weird or ostentatious. We hope that you feel free to join us in worshipping God to the best of your abilities. If you have any specific needs we have a ministry staff that would love to connect with you. Ask the people sitting around you for their

names and to point them out!

Once again, we are so happy to have you here worshipping with us and we hope this is a chance to worship God in a deep and meaningful way.

Cody Rousseau

Save the Dates!

Monday 4/11 Community Meal

Tuesday 4/12 Ladies Bible Class

Sunday 4/17 Kerri McDaniel Bridal Shower

Tuesday 4/19 Ladies Bible Class

Wednesday 4/20 Youth Group

Friday 4/22—4/24 Ladies Retreat

Friday 4/22—4/24 Inspire: Men's Retreat

Port Orchard News and Events

Pulpit Preview— Acts 3:

This week we will be hearing a sermon from the third chapter of Acts. We will be discussing the healing of the lame man, and moreover the status of Christ as head over all. We will talk about being a people of faith in the authority of Christ.

Happy Birthdays!

Spring has arrived and the sun is starting to finally warm things up!! With it's arrival we have many brothers and sisters to celebrate their birth with. Let's celebrate the birthdays of our family members with joy and thanksgiving!

1— Veva Janes. 4— Virginia Martin. 6— Jim Snead. 7— Lucille Lowe. 10— Maydeane Furstenwerth; Jacob Hammock; Brandon Karn. 12— Jarrod Coley; Brad Orser. 13— Rick Velasco. 17— James Greer. 19— Rubin Carter. 21— DJ Magneson. 28— Lori Sanders

SERVING OPPORTUNITIES

Meals Needed

Bonnie Mitchell, along with Pene Hammock and Judy Van Lueven will be coordinating the temporary providing of meals on occasions when they are requested. Upon receiving the request, we will coordinate with the family to ascertain their needs — length of time, dietary restrictions etc. Once this has been determined through various means of communication we will contact the families here at POCOC for those who would like to participate with providing the meals.

Serving April 10, 2016 :

Prayer Leader:	Troy Hill	Communion Prep:	Warners
Scripture Reader:	Cody Rousseau	Communion Cleanup:	Wilsons
Offering Thoughts:	Darrell Fry	Praise Team:	Gene Gerard Connie Greer Tiffany Rousseau
Communion Meditation:	Ken Avery		
Servers:	D. Snypp & T. Bratcher		
Ushers:	W. Hammock & J. Bickle		
Greeters:	Greg & Sandi Warner	Sunday School & LG Helper:	Kerri Schmeltzer
Nursery Attendants:	Kerri S.	Fellowship Team:	Donuts— Roy & Jo Vaughn Coffee— Rick V. Cleanup— Roy & Jo Vaughn
Sound:	Dale Sanders		
Slides/Lighting:	Lisa Bratcher		



There are some of you who want to always provide a meal, some who choose not to and some who would like to do so occasionally. Please email me if you fall in any of those categories and I will make a list which will be confidential.

This is a great ministry and can be an opportunity to serve others. If you have any questions, please be sure and call:

Bonnie Mitchell 360-895-0453 (h) 360-265-3266 (c)
Pene Hammock 360-871-9678
Judy Van Lueven 360-692-0361

Nursery and Communion

Thank you to all who served in the nursery and preparing and cleaning up communion this year!

Are you gifted with little kids? Would you like to serve somehow but don't know where to start? We have just the place for you! We need for more people to sign up for doing the nursery and communion prep/clean-up for 2016. There are only a few slots left for Communion, so if you feel like you are willing and able, please sign up in the foyer for the next opportunity on our community board. We will be printing a new Nursery sign up soon!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ladies Retreat

The ladies retreat is scheduled for April 22-24. Registration form and payment can be turned in to LaDonna Latham. Any questions regarding the retreat can be fielded by Lisa Bratcher. Information will be on the bulletin board and registration should be taken care of as soon as possible!

New Directory

There will be a new directory published as soon as possible this month! If you didn't get in your updated info and there is an issue it will have to wait until the next publication date. New directories should be printed and out by the end of this month!

Bridal Shower: Kerri McDaniel

There will be a bridal shower held for Kerri McDaniel on April 17th at the church building at 3PM. If you are interested in being a part of the group gift please see Tanya or Savannah by April 10th.

Our Prayer List

For the victims in the bombings in Belgium.

Healing for : Gary White, David Latham, Dorothy Janes, Bonnie Mitchell, Bonnie's son-in-law Tony, Gary White, Jodon Mason, Rick Velasco, Bette Widman, Ken and Pat Woodrow.

That Kara Mitchell's biopsy shows no cancer.

Delores Brunn's family and their struggles with health and other issues.

For Cody and Tiffany and those who will be involved with getting Tiffany's brother Jacob settled into a home.

For the Ladies Retreat and their speaker, the Growth Groups journey.

For Julie Snypp's uncle Tom who now is under Hospice Care.

Praise for Rick Velasco having quit smoking.

Guidance to our Deacons as they pursue Cody's replacement.

Prayer for Deja and Rodney Cormier and for Deja's pregnancy.

Pray for members who are homebound and unable to worship and fellowship with us.

Prayers for our church as we begin a new journey with the Growth groups and curriculum.

April 3, 2016

Worship: N/A

Class: N/A

Offering: \$3,491.00

Goal: \$3,437.50

discover, has to do with the Holy Spirit. And the whole church is then, and thereby, given authority to work within God's world as his accredited agent(s). From an exceedingly quick survey, we are forced to say: authority, according to the Bible itself, is vested in God himself, Father, Son and Spirit.

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