

# YOUR VIEW OF AUTHORITY MATTERS TO GOD

## *Note to the speaker:*

Help the audience to appreciate that the Supreme Authority, Jehovah God, wants us to respect authority that he permits to exist. We must demonstrate respect in our attitude and actions

### **WHY RESPECT AUTHORITY?** (5 min.)

Disrespect for authority continues to increase during these “last days” (2Ti 3:1-3)

People often show little respect for any type of authority

At times, such disrespect is a reaction to the abuse of authority (Pr 28:15; 29:2; Ec 8:9)

God’s Word teaches us to show respect for those who have authority over us [**Read Proverbs 24:21**]

Laws and authority contribute to peace and order (1Co 14:33, 40; *lv* 39-40 ¶9-10)

### **SHOW RESPECT FOR AUTHORITY IN THE FAMILY** (6 min.)

Jehovah organized the family arrangement so that all members would benefit (Eph 3:14, 15)

Jesus set a perfect example for husbands, wives, and children

A Christian husband must honor and love his wife (Eph 5:25-29; 1Pe 3:7; *w09* 7/15 8 ¶4-7)

He makes sacrifices for the family and provides spiritual instruction

A Christian wife must show deep respect for her husband (Eph 5:24, 33; *w09* 7/15 9 ¶8-10)

She too has authority, but she is cooperative and supportive (Pr 1:8)

Obedient children please Jehovah and their parents (Pr 23:15, 24, 25; Lu 2:51; *w09* 7/15 11 ¶16-18)

### **SHOW RESPECT FOR “THE SUPERIOR AUTHORITIES”** (6 min.)

Jehovah requires us to show respect for governmental authorities [**Read Romans 13:1, 2**] (*w10* 1/15 24 ¶3; *lv* 44 ¶18)

These authorities serve as deterrents to disorder and crime (Ro 13:3, 4)

We should obey the laws of “the superior authorities” on account of our conscience (Ro 13:5)

We receive other benefits from these public servants (Ro 13:6, 7; *w11* 9/1 22 ¶2-3)

Showing due respect for government officials brings glory to God (Mt 5:16; *lv* 45 ¶19-20)

### **SHOW RESPECT FOR THE SUPREME AUTHORITY** (8 min.)

Jehovah God is the Supreme Authority (Ps 83:18)

He always exercises his authority in the best way for all his subjects (De 10:17, 18)

Obedience to Jehovah must come before obedience to any other authority (Mt 22:21)

When commanded to do what God forbids or when commanded to stop doing what God requires, servants of Jehovah do not obey (Ex 20:4, 5; Da 3:16-18; Mt 28:19, 20; Ac 5:28, 29)

Even in such circumstances, we show respect for secular authorities (1Pe 3:15; *ed* 20, box)

We show respect for Jehovah by submitting to those who take the lead in the congregation [**Read Hebrews 13:17**]

Even though elders are imperfect, rebelling against them would show disrespect for Jehovah’s authority (Nu 16:1-3, 28-35; 26:9; *w12* 10/15 13-14 ¶4-8)

### **JEHOVAH’S AUTHORITY WILL LAST FOREVER** (5 min.)

Jehovah has established the Messianic Kingdom with his Son ruling as King (Re 11:15)

Human rulership will soon be eliminated (Da 2:44; Mt 6:9, 10; *kr* 8-9 ¶8-9)

The Kingdom will bring peace and justice to the earth (Ps 72:7, 8, 12-14, 16; *kr* 26-27)

Subjects of the Kingdom will have such great respect for Jehovah’s authority that police will not be necessary in the new world (*g02* 7/8 12)

At the end of the Thousand Year Reign, Christ will hand the Kingdom over to Jehovah (1Co 15:28)

If we learn now to subject ourselves to Jehovah’s authority, we can enjoy living under God’s refreshing rule forever (Ps 37:27-29)

[Adhere closely to the outlined material, and observe the indicated timing of each section. Not all cited texts need to be read or commented on. See *Ministry School* book, pages 52-55, 166-169]