



# BY WHAT Authority?

SER 5/3/09 AM

## I. WHAT MANY ACCEPT AS AUTHORITY IN MORALITY

- A. **Feelings** – Many people have destroyed themselves by following their feelings (Proverbs 14:12; 28:26; Jeremiah 10:23).
- B. **Conscience** – Our conscience is like a clock, which works properly only if set properly (Acts 23:1; 24:16; 26:9-11).
- C. **Peers** – Following the majority can be like lemmings running over a cliff (Galatians 2:13; Matthew 7:13-14).
- D. **Preacher** – Following the wrong minister can lead to corruption (Matthew 15:12-14; 2 Corinthians 11:13-15; 2 Peter 3:1-3, 12-15, 17-19).

## II. WHAT CHRISTIANS ACCEPT AS AUTHORITY IN MORALITY

- A. **Jesus** – Jesus is the ultimate standard of authority in morality (Matthew 28:18; Acts 17:30-31; John 12:48).
- B. **Apostle's Doctrine** – The apostle's doctrine is the Christian's standard of authority (Acts 2:42; 2 Corinthians 5:20; John 16:12-13; 1 Corinthians 14:37).
- C. **Bible** – Morality is an integral part of "the truth," the Word of God (2 Timothy 3:16-17; 1 Thessalonians 4:1-8; Ephesians 4:17-32).

Outline adapted from Marc Copeland's sermon entitled: *Authority in Morality*