

Is the Bible a sure foundation? Part 2: Is it authoritatively reliable? Does it contradict?

People, who try to undermine the Bible, have different methodologies. The first method was shown in article Part 1: Is the Bible a sure foundation? Part 1: Is it understandable? <https://www.facebook.com/notes/jose...> If it is not, why rely on the Word. They use this as a pretext for gaining spiritual reliance on ideologies they put forward, in the Bible's place.

Where people, chiefly talking about the NT Wright Disciples, but other groups, do the same, that of sublimating the validity of the Bible, with their own teachings, by undermining the Word, and placing themselves in its place as a standard.

Methodology 1: Undermining a concrete Truth, by changing the definitions of how to follow that truth. In this aim they focus on Arguments that try to undermine the Bible's authority; for if you can change a thing, you can make that thing into something else.

Arguments NT Disciples make to undermine the validity of Bible authority in the Word. Besides saying the Word can't be understood or followed, they also try to make the lines of changing the Bible blurred, in adding and subtracting, from the inspired text to further this agenda. This destroys the reliability of the Word. For them, thus if they can subtract the command of adultery, that's fine. Morality is fluid. For them, if they can add man's authority, creed, teaching as divine, that counteracts and contradicts the Bible, then the Bible IS not a reliable source, it can be sublimated, by other things, the resources and biases of men.

These arguments are somewhat asinine and silly that such people make. But I will outline them, WITH scripture so you can readily defeat the nonsense and falsehood they share.

Argument 1: First one I will outline is in 2 John **9** “Anyone who runs ahead and does not continue in **the** teaching of Christ does not have God; whoever continues in **the** teaching has both the Father and the Son.”

They say this is referencing a singular teaching, that of saying Jesus did not come in the flesh. Otherwise they say, it is alright to NOT abide in the confines and borders of Jesus’ truth and teaching. Okay, besides “the” being pluralistic, not singular, like this teaching, or that. The letter capitalizes on abiding IN CHRIST AND HIS TRUTH.

2 John **1** The elder, to the lady chosen by God and to her children, whom I love in **the truth**—and not I only, but also all who know the truth— **2** because of the truth, which **lives in us** and will be with us forever: **3** Grace, mercy and peace from God the Father and from Jesus Christ, the Father’s Son, will be **with us in truth** and love. **4** It has given me great joy to find some of your children **walking in the truth**, just as the Father commanded us. **5** And now, dear lady, I am not writing you a new command but one we have had from the beginning. I ask that we love one another. **6** And this is love: **that we walk in obedience to his commands**. As you have heard from the beginning, his command is that you walk in love. **7** I say this because many deceivers, who do not acknowledge Jesus Christ as coming in the flesh, have gone out into the world. Any such person is the deceiver and the antichrist. **8** Watch out that you do not lose what we have worked for, but that you may be rewarded fully. **9** Anyone who runs ahead and **does not continue in the teaching of Christ** does not have God; whoever continues in the teaching has both the Father and the Son. **10** If anyone comes to you and does not bring this teaching, do not take them into your house or welcome them. **11** Anyone who welcomes them shares in their wicked work.

Notice all the plural “the’s,” like “in the truth,” “walking in obedience to His commands.” Do you think any of this is singular? So the context of the text follows to the continued admonishment and exhortation to ABIDE in Christ and His teachings, in verse 9.

John the Apostle not only in this verse, (9) but in the letter, points out we need to abide in the truth, walk in the truth. This is how John writes in all His letters.

This practice of staying in the confines of God’s teaching is pointed here as a mark of being a follower of Christ Jesus. John 8:31 “So Jesus was saying to those Jews who had believed Him, “If you **continue in My word**, *then* you are truly disciples of Mine; **32** and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.”

As Christ-following disciples, we show we are His not by lip service, but by how love is show in our actions and in how we are IN the truth.

1 John 3:18 “Little children, let us not love with word or with tongue, **but in deed and truth.**”

This gave the inspired Apostle no greater joy, in the salutation and exhortation John wrote to God’s people. 3 John 1 “The elder to the beloved Gaius, whom I **love in truth.** **2** Beloved, I pray that in all respects you may prosper and be in good health, just as your soul prospers. **3** For I was very glad when brethren came and testified to your truth, *that is*, how **you are walking in truth.** **4** I have no greater joy than this, to hear of my **children walking in the truth.**”

In abiding in the truth, John wrote in his earlier years, what Jesus taught, as this Apostle witnessed. That we must worship in the foundation lines of the truth. John 4:24 “God is spirit, and those who worship Him must **worship in spirit and truth.**” This thus means we should to distort and change what God wants and go against it.

To add or subtract, (go outside of the confines of the truth) through man made creeds in worship, is warned against. And when people do such things, their true nature and heart is exposed, as self-invested, not invested emotionally in heart to God.

Matthew 15:**8** “**These** people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me. **9** They worship me in vain; their teachings are merely human rules.”

Argument 2: They (NT Disciples) like to use this verse and say, we'll we are not **binding** the rules, so it is okay. If people choose to do a thing and people adhere to a thing, wither they be force or do so willingly, it still is a teaching of human origin and a man-made creed or rule people choose to follow. Whenever you adhere to something in belief or action you are binding it to yourself in that belief and/or action.

When people choose to tamper with God's Word, they become like wolves and destroy others, because they turn people away from what God says, to a distorted truth, and make disciples after ourselves, (instead of Christ.) Acts 20:**29**
“I know that after I leave, savage wolves will come in among you and will not spare the flock. **30** Even from your own number men will arise and distort the truth in order to draw away disciples after them.”

Argument 3: This verse says we should have no truths but God's, truth.
Galatians 1:**6** “I am amazed that you are so quickly deserting Him who called you by the grace of Christ, for a **different gospel**; **7** which is *really* not another; only there are some who are disturbing you and want to **distort** the gospel of Christ. **8** But even if we, or an angel from heaven, should preach to you a **gospel contrary to what we have preached to you**, he is to be accursed! **9** As we have said before, so I say again now, if any man is **preaching to you a gospel contrary to what you received**, he is to be accursed!”

NT Disciples and other groups who want to discredit the absolute foundational standard of abiding ONLY in what God says from the Bible will play semantics'. They will say the word "Gospel" here is about Jesus' story of His life, death and resurrection. Although the Gospel is in part the Good News of this, (1 Cor 15:1-4), it's not *just* a story-line of Christ's life. Taking these verses by themselves is like taking John 3:16 and saying that is all to salvation. And ignoring the other pieces of the pie, like Acts 2:38. WE need to look at the whole Bible context. And what is the context?

The context: In this letter Paul writes to Jews who believe in Jesus's story, (aka death, burial and resurrection), and were saved, (Gal 3:26:4:6-7). Why would he do that, if the Gospel admonition was ONLY on the story of Jesus? But if the Gospel was about Bible teachings and standards, that these Jews had not been following, as we CAN readily see in the second chapter of Galatians, (2:11-14), when they showed favoritism towards Jews above Gentiles, then the word "Gospel" makes more sense.

From this we know the Good News, is all of God's news, the fact Christ came and died and the truths behind that sacrifice. Paul in the second chapter of Galatians, (see verses above) called the Christ believing, Christian Jews out for not following/abiding in the divine truth of the Gospel, why? It was because of their sin. The Gospel is listed as Standards, (1 Tim 1:8-11.) You and I can't obey the story of Jesus, but we are called to obey the Gospel, 1 Peter 4:17;19 and in this serious command, WE must obey the Gospel to be saved, 2 Thess 1:8-9. Standards one can follow and obey.

Sub-Argument 3: We'll they say, we can know the story of Jesus and in this be saved, this is the Gospel. Does not make much sense, does it? The Gospel is not standards, but in the story of Jesus, yet ONLY IN THIS CASE, has standards we must follow to gain salvation. But we don't need to follow any other standards that are connected to Jesus, after salvation. What?

Okay, going to post one Chapter here that easily refutes this. This is kinda long. But worth the time to explain this. Read and I'll explain at the bottom.

Romans 6:1 “What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin so that grace may increase? **2** May it never be! How shall we who died to sin still live in it? **3** Or do you not know that all of us who have been **baptized into Christ Jesus have been baptized into His death?** **4** Therefore we have been **buried with Him through baptism into death**, so that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, **so we too might walk in newness of life.** **5** For if we have become united with *Him* in the likeness of **His death**, certainly we shall also be *in the likeness* of **His resurrection**, **6** knowing this, that our **old self was crucified with Him, in order that our body of sin might be done away with**, so that we would no longer be **slaves to sin**; **7** for he who has **died is freed from sin.** **8** Now if we have **died with Christ**, we believe that we shall **also live with Him**, **9** knowing that Christ, having been raised from the dead, is never to die again; death no longer is master over Him.

10 *For the death that He died, He died to sin once for all; but the life that He lives, He lives to God.* **11** *Even so consider yourselves to be* **dead to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus.** **12** **Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its lusts, 13 and do not go on presenting the members of your body to sin as instruments of unrighteousness; but present yourselves to God as those alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God.** **17** But thanks be to God that though you were **slaves of sin**, you **became obedient** from the heart to that **form of teaching to which you were committed**, **18** and having been **freed from sin, you became slaves of righteousness.**”

After carefully reading the above verses, as you can see, that they simply say for salvation, we need to be dying (to sin) in repentance/baptism to the old man and come up as a new creation, by living a new life dedicated to God and His will. In this frame of how such people choose to highlight the word Gospel, of us only

following the standards of embracing the death, burial and resurrection of the Lord. We can readily see that part of baptism and salvation encompasses the spiritual resurrection, that of LIVE A NEW LIFE, in following Him; that of no longer to be slaves to sin but of righteousness. See my article here for more details on salvation <https://www.facebook.com/notes/jose...>

The Bible is full of such clear warnings. We need to keep the state of obedience, once saved, [Hebrews 10:26-31](#) to stay dead to sin and alive with Christ. That means being under God's will, in following Him, not sins. We don't just repent of our sins, Acts 2:38 and then go back to living in sin after we are saved, that's like taking a bath and immediately rolling in the mud, those who do such are worse of, [2 Peter 2:19-22](#). The Bible tells us again and again, that salvation is not a one-time deal, you must work out your salvation [Philippians 2:12](#), persevering in following God, [Hebrews 10:36](#) work to not be lost, [1 Corinthians 9:27](#) in this remain faithful to death [Revelation 2:10](#).

Does not mean we have to be perfect, but we do need to strive to walk in His way, not in sin, [1 John 1:5-9](#).

Argument 4: People use the following verses below to advocate for Bible submission to what God says. Sadly the NT Wright Disciples say (and those who try to undermine Bible authority) that this verse would not apply to anything but Revelation. It's alright they say to change, God's other teachings, just not the book of Revelation.

Rev 22:18 "I testify to everyone who hears the **words of the prophecy of this book: if anyone adds to them**, God will add to him the plagues which are written in this book; **19 and if anyone takes away from the words** of the book of this prophecy, God will take away his part from the tree of life and from the holy city, which are written in this book."

The below will explain the concept why Christians use the verse of Revelation to support all of the messages of God's truth.

What are the Prophecies of Revelation we are to not change in doctrine?

What is the prophecy of Revelation we are not supposed to add to or subtract from? **Revelation 22:18** *"I warn everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this scroll: If anyone adds anything to them, God will add to that person the plagues described in this scroll. 19 And if anyone takes words away from this scroll of prophecy, God will take away from that person any share in the tree of life and in the Holy City, which are described in this scroll."* Beside it showing God's attitude towards us in messing with His divine Word, (**Proverbs 30:5-6**) specifically, the prophecy is about 4 main things in Revelation, that the WHOLE Bible teaches directly in it's message or indirectly in its underlining themes. When you thus change any of Jesus' truth shown below and the concepts it is connected too, are you not changing the Book of Revelation. That of... 1. The need to obey Him and in sin repent. (**Revelation 2:5/Revelation 3:3**) By overcoming through hold fast and keeping His Works (**Revelation 2: 24-26/Revelation 3:11-12**). 2. His second and final coming (**Revelation 3:11/Revelation 16:15**), which immediately leads too... 3. Judgement of the bad and good, those who follow in His truth and those who don't. (**Revelation 20:12-13**) 4. The heavenly reward for those who obeyed and eternal punishment of hell for those who did not. (**Revelation 21:6-8;27/Revelation 20:14-15**) You can see even in **Revelation 22:12-15**, were the above contextual verse is mentioned, that even in this chapter, it is talking about what the overall BIBLE book espouses. Second Coming - 12 **"Look, I am coming soon!"** Judgement and Reward **"My reward is with me, and I will give to each person according to what they have done."** Obedience (Baptism **Acts 22:16/1 Peter 3:21**) 14 **"Blessed are those who wash their robes, that they may have the right to the tree of life and may go through the gates into the city."**

Disobedience - **15 "Outside are the dogs, those who practice magic arts, the sexually immoral, the murderers, the idolaters and everyone who loves and practices falsehood."**

Argument 5: The verse "We cannot go beyond what is written," is not talking about abiding in the Word.

Paul warns against this placement of man above God. **1 Corinthians 4:6**
"Now, brothers and sisters, I have applied these things to myself and Apollos for your benefit, so that you may learn from us the meaning of the saying, "Do not go beyond what is written. Then you will not be puffed up in being a follower of one of us over against the other."

Paul gave a inspired God given, Bible command, in 1 Cor 4:1-5, (read to learn more) then said don't follow us for our sakes, but in that command implies follow God, otherwise you "go beyond what is written." If it was not of God, they would have gone beyond what was written, for they would have been obeying Paul's teachings, and have been followers of mere man.

But it was not about them. IT WAS NOT ABOUT Paul. Paul suffered, (Acts 9:16) because the teaching was about HIM, Jesus Christ. We should never follow men for men's sake; but only for the truths sake. How much more those who don't speak the Words of God but of UNINSPIRED/Divinely unapproved men, ([Titus 1:13-14](#); [Mark 7:7](#); [Matthew 15:9](#).)

Preachers, Elders, Teachers, and Christians may get admirers. But they should never get followers after themselves. Disciples of Christ we should only be, not of men. False teachers do this to move people away from God's teachings to their own. See Acts 20:29-30

That means we have only one Teacher. Those that teach are just sharing Jesus' message. They are nothing in themselves; just instruments of God's Word. God gives the increase and salvation harvest. See 1 Corinthians 3:6

Matthew 23:8 "But you are not to be called 'Rabbi,' for you have one Teacher, and you are all brothers."

Following men for men's sake, and not Christ's causes divisions and is warned against.

1 Corinthians 1:10 "Now I exhort you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be made complete in the same mind and in the same judgment. 11 For I have been informed concerning you, my brethren, by Chloe's people, that there are quarrels among you. 12 Now I mean this, that each one of you is saying, "I am of Paul," and "I of Apollos," (More on Apollos Acts 18:24-27) and "I of Cephas," (Peter) and "I of Christ." 13 Has Christ been divided? Paul was not crucified for you, was he? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul?"

This is why we have Lutherans, Baptists, Methodists, Mormons, Catholic's. They came from mere uninspired men who others followed and started obeying, rather than Christ. Lutherans, Martin Luther, Baptist, John Smyth, Methodist, John Wesley and his younger brother Charles, Mormons, Joseph Smith, Catholic's, Emperor Constantine. Only the church that fits the New Testament example, pattern, teachings is the church founded on Christ. He has all and absolute authority in name to do so. See Col 3:17

To follow uninspired mere men is vain and worthless. Matthew 15:9 "They worship Me in vain; they teach as doctrine the precepts of men."

Paul warned against following him or Apollos, for themselves sake. Even inspired men, should be listened too and followed only for Christ's sake and none other.

Paul says in ***Philippians 4:9*** “***Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me--put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you.***” Why? For Paul’s sake, because people admired him, NO! But because He was led by God (1 Corinthians 2:10 (as was the Apostles)) and followed His Son, (1 Corinthians 11:1). Paul was inspired, now days we have the inspired Word, to speak only the Oracles of God, (1 Peter 4:11).

Argument 6: Wanting to make the Apostles authority moot, they use the following Chapters. In Phil 4 below, they say the command to follow the Apostles example, is martyrdom, or persecution. So basically if we are not denying or getting flogged, we are not following this teaching.

Starting with Philippians 4:9 “and be found in him, **not having a righteousness** of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ—the **righteousness that comes from God** on the basis of faith. **10** I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, **11** and so, somehow, attaining to the resurrection from the dead.**12** Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already arrived at my goal, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me.

13 Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, **14 I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.** **15** All of us, then, who are **mature** should take such a view of things. And if on some point you think differently, that too God will make clear to you. **16 Only let us live up to what we have already attained.****17 Join together in following my example, brothers and sisters, and just as you have us as a model, keep your eyes on those**

who live as we do.18 For, as I have often told you before and now tell you again even with tears, many live as enemies of the cross of Christ.”

Following verses continued in Chapter 4:1-2 “Therefore, my dear brothers whom I long for, my joy and my victor’s crown, **this is how you must stand firm in the Lord**, dear friends. I urge Euodia and Syntyche to have the same attitude in the Lord.”

But is that what Paul asks the Christians to do? Verse 9, Paul talks on righteousness, and his spiritual race, would the race be for keeping the faith and gaining the crown of righteousness, or seeking how to be stoned and tortured? What does Paul compare his spiritual race as in 2 Timothy 4:6-8. Then Paul says in this spiritual race to be mature and to let us LIVE up to what they had obtained. In this example of running a spiritual race and of righteousness, Paul says; follow my example as a pattern. And stand firm.

Argument 7: Matt 18:18 is not talking about the Apostles having authority to bind and loss. Let’s read these verses and the context and their argument.

Matthew 18:18 *“Truly I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall have been bound in heaven; and whatever you loose on earth shall have been loosed in heaven.19 Again I say to you, that if two of you agree on earth about anything that they may ask, it shall be done for them by My Father who is in heaven.”*

Now this is going to be in depth. Could give a short answer but want to get completely into the facts of this discussion.

They (those who try to undermine Bible authoritative texts) say it means we are to bind sins in heaven and loss sins by forgiveness. Are we God? Are we divinely guided by Heaven’s hand? Only Christ and

those who have His promised Holy Spirit aka God's divine guiding authority can have the right to speak for God and remove "loose" sins and "bind" sins, by the Spirit's guiding, (though this context is not specifically talking about sins, but by God's guiding in the Spirit, binding and loosing what He divinely wills. Don't want to be redundant, so read other arguments, especially 9, on the Apostles having authority via the Spirit's guidance and anointing.)

It's interesting they say this, for even Apostle Peter, (who would later receive power from on high) outside of the out of Matthew 18:18, and the misplaced passages these people use on forgiveness, was told the exact same thing as the others were told, that he would bind and lose by God's authority, [Matthew 16:13-20](#).

Even early on they (the Apostles) shared a part of the Spirit's authoritative directive power, for God's guiding directives of forgiveness, [John 20:21-24](#). Christ did this to get them ready to be sent, and when the fullness of the gift came on Pentecost, they fulfilled the power directive to heal to confirm the divine oracles of His Word, they spoke [Mark 16:14-20](#). Can you withhold God's hand to forgive? Can you direct the Great Redeemer to forgive those rebellious who should not be forgiven? Yet they try to sway people by meshing the previous message Jesus gave on forgiveness in [Matthew 18:15-17](#). Which if applied put's us to the same level as our Lord. It is our God who has the authority, We do not, ([Hebrews 9:28](#).) They combine two teachings (Matt 18:18/Matt 18:15-17) and make it one.

Argument 8: Col 3:17 gives us Bible Authority in church singing. Yet the NT groups say it's not talking about the Church in worship; but just singing outside of church. They use these verses. But what does **Col 3:15-16** say? AND to whom is this verse referring? **15 "Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. 16 Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts."**

The members are the united church. **Romans 12:4 "For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, 5 so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others.**

Christ is the body of the members." **Ephesians 5:23 "For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church, his body, of which he is the Savior. 24 Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything."**

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Argument 9: The House Movement. It is binding because Christians met together in homes, so we must to. First question: Is it Scriptural to attend a church in a building? I am going to go very basic here. The 411 and ABC's of fundamentals. Lay it out as concisely as I can. So here it goes.

There are two types of commands in the Bible general and specific.

Example: "Go into all the World and preach the gospel," ([Matthew 29:16-20](#)) is a general command. Paul the Apostle used a boat, walked, other Jews may have taken camels, donkeys, the rich could have taken horses, chariots, etc. Now days, we can take a airplane, a taxi, a bike, a train, etc. Or even use Facebook, blogs, media, Twitter, TV, Radio, pay for evangelists, (as they did also back then [1 Cor 9:11-14](#),) etc, to share the Word of God.

Now IF this was a specific command, like go into all the world and preach the Gospel on a donkey, then we would be obligated to go into all the world riding a donkey.

You see the difference.

Okay now to the main topic. WE are commanded to meet and a not to neglect coming together when we do. We are given a general command to meet together, does not specify the place. ([Hebrews 10:24-25](#)).

The Apostles/Christians met in different places, the Temple in Jerusalem, ([Acts 2:46;5:12](#)) in homes, ([Acts 2:46](#)) etc under Nero's persecution they meet in the catacombs. You see they followed the general command in meeting in places they choose.

Now it would be different if the Bible said a specific command instead of a general command, a specific command would be one of the following, "meet in a synagogue, or in the Jerusalem Temple, or by a river." See the difference.

So following the Word, we meet. Most people in this US Country meet in a building owned by the congregation as a reliable and convenient way to reach the unsaved world who may be looking for a local church and in this as this helps with the members who may meeting in numbers, for ease of finding the location, making it easy to access, etc. Meeting by the river could be bad for the elderly in July weather, meeting in tombs distracting, meeting in homes, overcrowding, so as to make it that not all people could come, nor easy to find for people who don't see signs, a building, etc, of those who are lost or those seeking a place who are already saved. And seeking for a place to worship in the Temple in Israel would be inconvenient, etc.

Yet it is a general command, "meet."

We as mentioned above are given a general command to go into all the world to spread the gospel, part of that world is here in the local area, one way we CAN,

not must, but can spreading the gospel is in meeting in a easy to find and accessible local building, were sinners can find a place to worship, hear truth and be saved.

What else does it say? Let's read the whole content.

Matthew 28:16 “But the eleven disciples proceeded to Galilee, to the mountain which Jesus had designated. 17 When they saw Him, they worshiped Him; but some were doubtful. 18 And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. 19 “Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”

That is right, teach the saved, God's truths. Must be important right? Knowing and doing what God wants. Since these were Christ's last words.

When we meet in a local building, we perform both commands. We can better reach the lost and teach the saved.

When we are given a general commanded to do something, like “go into all the world and preach,” we can choose how to do it. Youtube, internet radio, paid preachers, etc.

When we are given a general command to do something, like “meet,” we can do likewise. We can meet that command spiritually with funds, people, resources, etc, to support and uphold that command.

The church is not a local tag word, “park,” “house,” “temple,” it's the following...

1 Timothy 3:15 “but in case I am delayed, I write so that you will know how one ought to conduct himself in the household of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and support of the truth.”

What makes a church a church, is if they are supporting the truth, in conduct the Bible teaches and are acting like a family towards God and each other, in upholding that truth.

This answers the second question: What is giving?

Christ is the head/authority of the church, and the church is His body, ([Colossians 1:18](#)) we as members of that body the church give, ([Romans 12:3-8](#)), and when we do so, generously/cheerfully, ([2 Corinthians 9:7](#)) especially those gifted, (see [Romans 12:3-8](#)) to “the support of the truth.”

If Christ is the head and His truth is to be followed, then we as His members of the church need to give to support its commands and teachings. Bibles, church meeting place, Gospel meeting flyers, power-point, places to sit, air conditioning, bathrooms, all help with people being able to hear the truth, passing out from, the heat, collapsing due to standing for hours, not being able to go to a place to worship, because you don't want to be stuck needing to do nature's call, and having nowhere to go, are all deterrents to hearing the truth, these aids help with that.

With obeying the truth, that of assembling, worshiping, hearing the Word. Giving meets the Bible commands the head of the church has given us, His members to do, again that of meeting to assemble, worship, teach, etc. This is under the oversight of the church Elders, who are to spiritually feed God's church people, ([Acts 20:28-32](#)) again in a autonomous church relationship, each member supporting each other.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON CHURCH AUTONOMY AND FOR MORE FACTS ON SCRIPTURAL USAGE OF CHURCH FUNDS, PLEASE SEE [THIS ARTICLE](#) I WROTE, THANKS. ☺

Argument 10: Col 3:17 is not just talking about Bible authority from Jesus.

Well what does this verse say ***"Let us in word and deed do all in the name (authority) of the Lord."*** Col 3:17

So all must be done in His name, His authority? Right?

First let's look at some passages that say Jesus Christ, (as God) is our source of authority to further explore this.

Matthew 28:17 "When they saw Him, they worshiped Him; but some were doubtful. 18 And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. 19 "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

From this we read that Christ has ALL authority, including in His teachings, (which truths He spoke in the Father's Name **John 5:23** and in the Father's words **John 12:49**, confirming their inspiration and divinity by Miracles **John 14:11-12; Acts 2:22**) and His Apostles were charged by the One who has all authority to teach His truths and save others. This is why in **Matthew 18:18**, Christ said to them, "whatever you bind will be bound." Read further for more details.

Besides having the Spirit's divine hand of guidance. The Apostles were teaching Jesus' words and standards and in this could bind in authority, because the authority of Jesus' teachings was being taught by them. Apostles were men who could raise the dead, heal the unhealable, cure the blind, drive out demons, and the whole world stood up and took notice, (this was a Mark of an Apostle **2 Cor 12:12**) we don't see such wonders and signs from men today, they were given

to confirm the divine words that were spoken, **Mark 16:20** in this day we have all the revelations of God.

We have all the beliefs/the things of faith handed down through the revelation of the Apostles, the believers of Christ **Jude 3** and we have everything we need to live a spiritual life, be godlike in following our Lord and gaining His precious promises, (heaven, a relationship with God, etc) from these things, **2 Peter 1:3-4**. That's why we need to speak just what the Bible speaks, **1 Peter 4:11**.

For more details see also <https://www.facebook.com/notes/joseph-sullivan/is-the-whole-truth-revealed-for-us-to-follow/10153289414201139>

The authority we get is from the Apostles and from their writings, and it is able to equip us for everything good thing God wants us to do in following His will. We NOW HAVE ALL Scripture and it is inspired. **2 Timothy 3:16-17** And no other should speak another "Gospel" (Which is God's standards **1 Timothy 1:8-11**) other than what the Apostles/inspired men have given. **Gal 1:6-10** This is what Paul wrote to believers of Jesus and the Resurrection at that time. He said "walk in truth of the Gospel." **Acts 2:14**, for they were choosing to listen to others and follow uninspired men instead. If people still had the Miracles that these men had, we would know of them and the world would tell us. Such people would be hounded by the Press, have governments and media come to them, the world would readily show video's of such signs today. If someone could cure cancer and aids in the hospitals, they would be world renown, especially in the digital age where news travels as fast as the speed of sound. But we don't.

Such "Signs and Wonders" were from Apostles, who had seen the Lord, picked of Jesus in His life. **Luke 6:12-16**, or had been with Jesus

in His whole lifelong Ministry, **Acts 1:21-26**, with one exception Paul, who he said Jesus appeared to him as an Apostle LAST as one abnormally born, for He had persecuted the church **1 Corinthians 15:8-10**, last means no other, it is the last. Only Apostles through the Spirit could impart the gifts of the Spirit, See story of Simon the Sorcerer, despite other Christians like Phillip the Evangelist being there, they had to send up the Apostles to give the new Christians the Spirit, **Acts 8:9-25** (Also See **Acts 19:6**)

Another reason we need to listen to the Apostles, aka their examples, writings, words, is that they were divinely inspired by and guided the Holy Spirit. The Apostles were told by Christ that they would be "lead into all truths" by the Holy Spirit, **John 16:13** and that "when the Counselor come, whom I will send you IN MY NAME, the Spirit of truth who goes out from the Father, He will testify about me." **John 15:26**

So Jesus is our authority, (See also **Hebrews 1:1-4**) He spoke by the Father's will. **John 12:49/John 14:10** The Apostles are our authority, they spoke what Jesus had given them to say **1 Corinthians 14:37** and were lead by the Spirit, after being told by Jesus on His ascension to Heaven to wait in Jerusalem to receive Power from on high and the Holy Spirit **Acts 1:4-5; *8**, which they did in the following chapter, **Acts 2:1-4**, confirming what Jesus said, the some of you will not taste death till you see the Kingdom (The church **Mathew 16:17-19**) come with Power, and as Christ told the Apostles, to wait for that Power, it indeed did come. In this Power, the Spirit confirming the divine message of inspiration these men received by Signs and Miracles. **Mark 16:20**

Since Christ gave them His truths to tell and the Spirit to guide them in sharing His message, given by the Father, and they wrote down the

New Testament, and the Bible says "all scripture is inspired of God." **2 Timothy 3:16-17**, then the scripture is a reliable source, if we are to believe Jesus and God. If not, then we can't believe anything in regards to God or Christ. **Proverbs 30:5-6** says God's words are perfect don't change them, don't add to them. His Word alone is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path, only in God's Bible teaching is understanding. **Psalms 119:104-105**

We also follow their spiritual examples again because they were guided by the Spirit to speak and do spiritual things. We are commanded for this reason to do so on following this pattern **Philippians 3:17;Philippians 4:9** and for the reason that they follow Christ. **1 Cor 11:1**. They had the authority **1 Thes 4:2; *8** and were guided by the Spirit **Eph 3:4-5**. Thus the Kingdom/church is founded in God, through His words, given by them **Eph 2:20-21**.

God directed the Apostles, we pay attention the inspired writings and examples, for this reason. But why should we pay attention to uninspired men? And follow them? God calls this worthy of rebuke, **Titus 1:10-11; *13-14** and empty worship when we follow man made religious teachings. God says doing this means your heart is far from Him, because your not following His will to please Him, but the desires of mere men. **Matthew 15:8-9**

"Let us in word and deed do all in the name (authority) of the Lord." **Col 3:17**. If Christ has not given us religious authority to do something in His Word, we should not do it. Let us not follow uninspired men, but God.

Argument 10: These false teachers say those who advocate just following God's Word are teaching a uninspired man made creed.

This they say makes such people part of a religious denomination, following human teachings. Kinda circular isn't it? We are creedist, because we say we should not follow creeds. What? As this above article you read readily attests, God wants us to follow Him, not mere men, who add to His will and wishes. As AGAIN the Bible states. WE must not change God's Truth. It needs no correction. His Word is perfect. His Word is pure. AND needs to stay that way.

Proverbs 30: 5 "Every word of God is pure: he is a shield unto them that put their trust in him. 6 Add thou not unto his words, lest he reprove thee, and thou be found a liar."

We are His people when we obey His teachings *John 8:31 "To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, "If you abide in my teaching, you are really my disciples, 32 Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."* (Note: Those that are Christians are His disciples or followers *Acts 11:26*).

Should we remove anything from that Word or add anything to that Word on what God wants us to do in our spiritual lives?

What does *Deut 4:2 "Do not add to what I command you and do not subtract from it, but keep the commands of the LORD your God that I give you."*

But you may say, that is the old Testament, yes we are not under the OT today, (Eph 2:14-15, Gal 3:16;19, Hebrews 8:8;13) but is God's Word back then, still His Word? Even if we are not under the OT. Is His attitude back then, still reflective of His attitude on how we should today, treat that WORD? Do you think He does not care if you distort, change, mis characterize His precious truth now?

When the Bible says Word, it's referring to His all His eternal Word, as it says in the Bible ***"Forever, O Lord, your word is firmly fixed in the heavens."***

Psalm 119:89 And what does this verse say in Prov 30 verse 5, His Word is pure. No flaws. No distortions by added man made religious tampering of Truth.

For the Jews in the OT, His Word served it's perfect work, preparing God's people for Christ; 1. as a "school master" (Galatians 3:24). And 2. for teaching us today via **examples** what God's **attitude** is and in connection to that, what He expects of us in obedience and faithfulness. (Romans 15:4; 1 Corinthians 10:11)

We may not need to follow the sacrifices and Sabbath's but the examples of what attitudes displease God, still are a beacon for us today. And His attitude does not change. God is the **"same yesterday, today and forever"** (**Hebrews 13:8**) and His attitude on changing His Word is still the same. He is still God, we are just under a different law in Christ then the Jews. But His Spirit remains the same.

Such examples of God's attitude towards perverting His truths can be found in...

Lev 10:1-3 1 "Now Nadab and Abihu, the sons of Aaron, took their respective firepans, and after putting fire in them, placed incense on it and offered UNAUTHORIZED fire before the LORD, which He had NOT commanded them. 2 And fire came out from the presence of the LORD and consumed them, and they died before the LORD. 3 Then Moses said to Aaron, "It is what the LORD spoke, saying, 'By those who come near Me I will be TREATED AS HOLY, And before all the people I will be HONORED.'" So Aaron, therefore, kept silent."

In this context we see God does not want His message changed, mutilated or perverted. Honestly who thinks that is a smart idea to begin with? Really?

The Bible is chalk full of examples, commands. But I will leave it at that. The above reply's to the false arguments aptly point out this silliness as well as the argument that those who say we should just to what the Bible teaches, that of Bible only, instead of uninspired man made rules are creedists. Does that make any sense to anyone?

As you can tell the false narratives people put forth to undermine the Bible's sole base of reliability are somewhat absurd. These arguments they make do not come from logic, but from a bias to have an excuse to do what they want religiously outside of the confines of the Word of God and His teachings.

Another narrative I did not include is social justice. Beware of people who preach such phrases. These people can hold to and believe such liberal views of social change, like abortion, homosexuality, transgenderism, etc. See arguments that prove these wrong. <https://www.facebook.com/notes/joseph-sullivan/the-liberal-world-and-the-bible-world-facts-verse-feelings-politics-and-religion/10154106310226139>

And will speak of equality of wealth, as in socialism. This will be in the guises of saying individuals should be helping the poor. But even the Bible gives specific guidelines for such. <https://www.facebook.com/notes/joseph-sullivan/what-does-god-say-about-helping-the-poor/10153631005696139>

To churches they say the same, indiscriminately help poor people. But again the Bible gives guidelines. <https://www.facebook.com/notes/joseph-sullivan/institutionalism-the-red-line-of-bible-authority/10154396962271139>

These arguments are a calling card. Be aware of false narrative, when people are trying to corrupt you, they will say such things. Use the above Bible verses as a rebuttal to evil, Stand firm in the faith. Stay the course. Fight the good fight. Never give up.

Article part 1 <https://www.facebook.com/notes/joseph-sullivan/is-the-bible-a-sure-foundation-part-1-is-it-understandable/10154076211306139>

Article part 3 <https://www.facebook.com/notes/joseph-sullivan/is-the-bible-a-sure-foundation-part-3-does-the-scripture-contradict-is-morality-/10154122711626139>