

AUTHORITY

Rebellion and independence characterize what many in our culture embrace and even boast about, evenly outwardly defying authority. This is not surprising, as the devil is the author of rebellion. We must realize that God is a God of order and He demands obedience. He is Lord and even being a friend of God requires obeying his commandments.

John 15:14

“You are My friends, if you do what I command you.”

Actually, friend is a covenant term and what this verse really means is that I am walking in covenant when I obey, recognizing His Lordship. In others words, my covenant relationship with Him is in order when I receive and treat Him as Lord in my daily life. It makes sense now why the entrance into covenant (salvation prayer) is:

Romans 10:9

“that if you confess with your mouth Jesus {as} Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you shall be saved;”

God also says authorities are good things (Romans 13:4), not bad, and that resisting authorities puts you in a position of resisting God (Romans 13:2). This is because the Lord has selected those in authority (Psalms 75:6-7) and has delegated His authority to them to do their jobs. So when we fight authority, whether it's our boss, our spouse, our pastor, or our government official, we oppose God and His order (this is assuming authority is not requiring you to sin, in which case you do not sin, but obey God).

When we are submitted to God, that is, obedient to the things He specifically told us to do, obedient to His Word, and obedient to His authorities, we will walk in covenant blessings and the hedge of God will protect us from the devil.

James 4:7

“Submit therefore to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.”