

## God Said It - That Settles It!

When I was a little boy I hated it when I was told "because I said so". Now as a parent I say the same thing to my children when they ask why...? Parents realize what is best for their children. Sometimes our children do not understand why we may not allow them to do something that we realize is dangerous, yet the child may not see the danger involved. Well, being a student of the Bible is the same way. God knows what is best for His children. When he makes a demand we better stick to obeying it. If we do not, we will not enter into Heaven. Read what James wrote by inspiration: (James 2:10) *"For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all."* What a shame it will be for those who have done so much right, yet failed in some point. God's word is the final authority on all things. (John 12:48) *"He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day."*

The question arises "what if I cannot understand God's word?" That answer will not do in that final day. (Ephesians 3:1-4) *"For this cause I Paul, the prisoner of Jesus Christ for you Gentiles, If ye have heard of the dispensation of the grace of God which is given*

*me to you-ward: How that by revelation he made known unto me the mystery; (as I wrote afore in few words, Whereby, when ye read, ye may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ)."* Why would the inspired Apostle Paul say that when you read you may understand if you cannot understand when you read? God wants us to study his word (II Timothy 2:15, Acts 17:10-11, and John 5:39). He does not want us to be unprepared to meet him. He gave His word so that we could understand. Some think that they need some religious official to explain to them God's word and interpret that word for them. God does not want that to occur. It is not from the interpretations of men, but from the word of God that we obtain faith (Romans 10:17). Do you really want to go to the Day of Judgment and hope that some man has taught you right? You will answer for yourself and being misled will not be an available choice (I Kings 13:1-29 and Romans 14:12).

Here is a quote from a world religion using the "Catechism":

85 "The task of giving authentic interpretation of the Word of God, whether in it's written form or in the form of Tradition, has been entrusted to the living, teaching office of the Church alone. It's authority in this matter is exercised in the name of

Jesus Christ. This means that the task of interpretation has been entrusted to the bishops in communion with the successor of Peter, the Bishop of Rome."

The question must be asked: who gave authority for any man to interpret what God has given? God did not! The Apostles did not even have permission to privately interpret what God said. (II Peter 1:20-21) *"Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost."* Also, speaking of traditions read (Matthew 15:1-9 and Galatians 1:10).

Yet, the same world religion that says the Bishop has the right of interpretation also calls on it's members to call men "Father" in a religious sense, of which God condemns. (Matthew 23:9) *"And call no man your father upon the earth: for one is your Father, which is in heaven."*

There are also those who argue, "well God did not say we cannot do something." When I was a child, if my father sent me to the store to buy a gallon of milk and a loaf of bread and I brought home the milk, bread, and a snickers I would be in for some trouble. We

must obtain authority from God on all things that we do through his word (Colossians 3:17 and II Peter 1:3). When we add to or take from his word we will be punished for that. (Revelation 22:18-19) *"For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book: And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book."* (See also Deuteronomy 4:2) The truth of the matter is, if we loved God we would keep his commandments (John 14:15). The problem is that we do not respect his authority. We want things our way, right away, and now. We must realize that we cannot have it our way and God's way at the same time. We must be wholehearted followers or failures of reaching God's approval.

Finally, in the realm of authority we have individuals that despite any passage of scripture shown to them, they think that God will ultimately pardon them even if they are wrong. (Matthew 7:21-23) *"Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we*

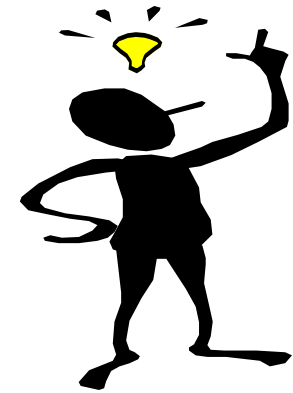
*not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity."* Reflect back again to James the second chapter and the tenth verse! Do not go into the Judgment Day guessing!

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*(Mark 16:15-16) "And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned."*

# Bible Study Tracts



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