

**BLURRING THE LINES**  
**PT 1 - THE LINE OF GOD'S (JESUS') AUTHORITY**  
**GENESIS 1:1; JOHN 1:1-3; 14**

**Introduction**

If you have ever been traveling down a highway and then the highway conditions changed and became such that you had trouble making out the **LINES** on the road and maybe even the **SIGNS** along the roadway, that is both a **HAZARDOUS** and **FRIGHTENING** thing to happen to you!

Those **LINES** are put on the road to **ESTABLISH BOUNDARIES** for our **SAFETY** and **PROTECTION** as well as for others on the road with us. **WARNING SIGNS** are also there for our **PROTECTION** and **DIRECTION**.

(i.e. We know there are a variety of different conditions that can make it hard to **SEE** and **DISTINGUISH** those **ESTABLISHED BOUNDARY LINES** and **SIGNS** on the road—Things such as a *dense fog, heavy smoke, a driving rainstorm, a flooded roadway, snow and/or blizzard conditions*, and sometimes *darkness* does it when the **LINES** have aged and faded from view or when your headlights aren't clearly lighting your way. Any of those things can make for **SOME DANGEROUS CONDITIONS!**)

But listen, when those **LINES ARE BLURRED** or **SIGNS** are **MOVED** or **OBSCURED** by **DELIBERATE INTENTIONAL ACTS OF OTHERS** (e.g. *VANDALISM*) that is not only **DANGEROUS** but it is **PLAINLY WRONG** and goes against what makes for a **SAFE SOCIETY!**

Now I've said all this not just to remind us of the **DANGER OF BLURRED LINES** and **SIGNS**, but I want us to see and understand how some very important **LINES** and **SIGNS** that were **ESTABLISHED BY GOD ALONG LIFE'S HIGHWAY ARE INTENTIONALLY BEING BLURRED** and **OBSCURED** by **SATAN** and by his children who **WALK IN DARKNESS** with him!

This is the beginning of what I hope to be a series of messages (unknown #) as we look at a number of **LINES** that have been **BLURRED** or are being **BLURRED** and **SIGNS** that have been **OBSCURED** by our **ENEMY!** I want to begin today with what I consider to be the most important **LINE!**

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**THE LINE OF GOD'S AUTHORITY—ONE GOD MANIFESTED IN THREE PERSONS...GOD THE FATHER, GOD THE SON, and GOD THE HOLY SPIRIT...the GREAT THREE IN ONE!**

When the U.S.A. was founded, the vast majority of its leaders both **RECOGNIZED** and **HONORED GOD'S AUTHORITY**, but that is no longer the case and sadly there are many who deny that our founding forefathers founded it relying on **GOD** and **HIS WORD!** (But the evidence still remains a part of our history. That's in spite of the fact that the leftists in our land deny this and try to obliterate the name of **GOD** and obfuscate the influence of **GOD** in our nation's founding!

This can also be seen in the attacks against **GOD, HIS WORD, and ESPECIALLY** against **THE AUTHORITY OF GOD'S SON— THE LORD JESUS CHRIST!** Oh how they hate the name of **JESUS!**

The **WORD OF GOD** is clear about **WHO JESUS** is— **HE IS GOD!**  
*Genesis 1:1—"In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth"*  
*Cf. John 1:1-3, 14*

**JESUS** is the **EMMANUEL...(GOD WITH US!) PROPHESED** in *Isaiah 7:14* and **FULFILLED** in *Matthew 1:22-23!*

**JESUS** is more than **just** a **GOOD PERSON, GOOD TEACHER**, or any other **RELIGIOUS LEADER**.

If **JESUS** was **just** a **GOOD PERSON** from history, then it wouldn't really be a big deal if we ignored **HIS PERSON**. There have been a lot of so called "*good men*" who have not gained the **recognition or respect** that other people feel that they should have had while they were alive.

If **JESUS** was **just** a **GOOD TEACHER**, then it wouldn't really be a big deal if we chose to ignore **HIS TEACHINGS**. There have been a lot of "*good teachers*" whose teachings have gone unheeded both during and after their lifetime.

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If **JESUS** was **just** another **RELIGIOUS LEADER** who formed a following, claimed **HE** was **GOD**, and then faded off the scene while **HIS RELIGION** went on, **HE** would be just one of many who have done that. It really wouldn't be a big deal if we just picked and chose what we want to believe of what **HE** said or even if we just chose not to believe **HIM** at all.

But listen, **JESUS** was and is more than **just** a **GOOD PERSON!** **And, by the way, HE WAS THE ONLY GOOD PERSON!**

**JESUS** was and is more than **just** a **GOOD TEACHER!** **JESUS** was and is more than just another **RELIGIOUS LEADER WHO CLAIMED TO BE GOD!** **HE WAS AND IS VERY MUCH GOD!**

**JESUS** not only **CLAIMED TO BE GOD** (and make no mistake about it he did **CLAIM TO BE GOD**), but, **HE SHOWED HIMSELF TO BE GOD**—through **HIS MIRACLES** and through **HIS RESURRECTION!**

And because **JESUS is GOD**, **HE has ALL AUTHORITY!** That is what we mean when we say that **JESUS IS LORD!** **JESUS said in:**  
*Matthew 28:18—"All power is given me in heaven and in earth."*

We know from experience that the person with the **POWER** is the **ONE IN AUTHORITY!** Well, **JESUS** is that **AUTHORITY** that is above all **AUTHORITY!**

For Example: *Who is it that really controls our country's economy?*  
To listen to the Presidential candidates, the Senators and the Congressmen you'd think they are in control.

But listen, they can spout all they want to about what they will do to spur economic growth. Nevertheless, they are all at the mercy of **Chairman of the Federal Reserve—Jerome Powell.**

However, there is one who is in control of **Jerome Powell—THE LORD JESUS CHRIST**, which is the **ONE WHO** put him in that position!

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And **JESUS** is the **ONE WHO** can bring him down! *Romans 13:1—" . . . For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God."*

*Philippians 2:9—"Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."*

But the lines of **JESUS AUTHORITY** are being **BLURRED** by our enemy, the **DEVIL** and his cohorts!

**I. WE SEE IN SCRIPTURE HOW OUR LORD'S AUTHORITY WAS QUESTIONED BY SOME BEFORE HE EVER BECAME FLESH!**

**A. The LORD'S AUTHORITY Was Questioned By Satan!**  
*(Isaiah 14:12-15)*

*" . . . I will exalt my throne above the stars of God. . . I will be like the most High."*

**B. The LORD'S AUTHORITY Was Questioned By Satan And Mankind In The Garden Of Eden!**

Satan challenged the **AUTHORITY** of **GOD** when he spoke to **EVE** the words found in...

*Genesis 3:1—"Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden."*

*Genesis 3:4—"Ye shall not surely die: For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing . . ."*

And then, in spite of what the **LORD** had told them, **ADAM** and **EVE** ate of the tree that they were told not to eat from!

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- C. **The LORD'S AUTHORITY Was Questioned In Noah's Day!**  
*Genesis 6:11-12*—"11 The earth also was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence. 12 And God looked upon the earth, and, behold, it was corrupt; **for all flesh had corrupted his way upon the earth.**"
- D. **The LORD'S AUTHORITY Was Questioned By Pharaoh In Egypt.** *Exodus 5:2*—"And Pharaoh said, Who is the LORD, that I should obey his voice to let Israel go? I know not the LORD, neither will I let Israel go."
- E. **The LORD'S AUTHORITY Was Questioned By His Chosen People.** *1 Samuel 8:7*—"And the LORD said unto Samuel, Hearken unto the voice of the people in all that they say unto thee: for they have not rejected thee, but **they have rejected me, that I should not reign over them.**"

*WE SEE IN SCRIPTURE HOW OUR LORD'S AUTHORITY WAS QUESTIONED BY SOME BEFORE HE EVER BECAME FLESH!*

## II. WE SEE IN SCRIPTURE HOW OUR LORD'S AUTHORITY WAS QUESTIONED BY MANY AFTER HE BECAME FLESH!

- A. **HIS AUTHORITY Was Questioned By Devout Men!**  
Those in the Synagogue including the Scribes, Pharisees, Elders and Sadducees questioned **HIS AUTHORITY!**  
These were the very ones who should have recognized **HIS AUTHORITY!**
1. **We See It In Their Astonishment!**  
*(Mark 1:21-22)*
  2. **We See It In Their Amazement!** *(Mark 1:26-27)*
  3. **We See It In Their Antagonism!** *(Mark 2:5-7; 16)*

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4. **We See It In Their Animosity!** *(Mark 3:6)*
5. **We See It In Their Announcement!** *(Mark 3:22)*  
Beelzebub is of Chaldee origin. He was the dung god and it also became a name referring to Satan.
6. **We See It In Their Arrest!** *(Mark 14:43)*
7. **We See It In Their Accusations!** *(Mark 15:3)*  
*Luke 23:2*—"We found this fellow perverting the nation, and forbidding to give tribute to Caesar, saying that he himself is Christ a King."  
  
*John 18:28*—"If he were not a malefactor, we would not have delivered him up unto thee."
8. **We See It In Their Activity!** *(Mark 15:11)*  
**HIS AUTHORITY** was questioned by these very ones who had taken and robbed **GOD'S AUTHORITY** for themselves. *(Mark 7:6-9)*

*HIS AUTHORITY Was Questioned By Devout Men!*

- B. **HIS AUTHORITY Was Questioned By HIS Disciples!**  
*(Mark 4:39-41)* "What manner of man is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?"
- C. **HIS AUTHORITY Was Questioned By HIS OWN Countrymen!** *(Mark 6:1-6)*
- D. **HIS AUTHORITY is Still Questioned By Many Today!**

*OUR LORD'S AUTHORITY WAS QUESTIONED BY SOME BEFORE HE EVER BECAME FLESH...BY MANY AFTER HE BECAME FLESH!*

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- III. BUT UNDERSTAND THAT WHILE JESUS' AUTHORITY WAS QUESTIONED BY MANY IT WAS UNQUESTIONED BY SOME!**
- A. HIS AUTHORITY Was Not Questioned By Some Demons! (Mark 1:23-26; 34; 3:11; 5:7, 13)**
  - B. HIS AUTHORITY Was Not Questioned By Many Who Were Diseased! (Mark 1:32-34; 40-42)**
  - C. HIS AUTHORITY Was Not Questioned By Some Who Were Dead! Mark 5:41-42 Jairus' daughter– "Damsel I say unto thee, arise."  
John 11:43–"Lazarus, come forth"**
  - D. HIS AUTHORITY Was Not Questioned By Other Of His Creation! Mark 4:39– "Peace, be still!"**
- IV. BUT WHAT WE REALLY NEED TO SEE AND UNDERSTAND IS THAT REGARDLESS OF WHETHER JESUS' AUTHORITY IS QUESTIONED OR NOT, IN REALITY, THERE IS NO QUESTION OF HIS AUTHORITY!**
- A. Understand That Just Because Someone Has A Question About One's Authority, That Doesn't Minimize That Person's Authority!**  
*e.g. Man we witnessed being told to leave the ballpark Umpire at a Dixie League Baseball playoff game in Tennessee."*
  - B. Understand Also That There Are Consequences To Disregarding Authority!**  
We are fooled into thinking otherwise because the authorities we are familiar with are not always aware that we are disregarding them and sometimes we get away with disregarding authority.  
*(e.g. speed limits, stop signs)*

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There is only one problem with that mind-set as it relates to the **AUTHORITY OF JESUS**—Nothing escapes **JESUS!** **HE** knows absolutely everything about us!

*Hebrews 4:13—"Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in his sight: but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do."*

- C. The Proof Of The LORD JESUS CHRIST'S AUTHORITY Comes In The Judgment!**
  - 1. BELIEVERS Will Stand Before JESUS At THE JUDGMENT SEAT OF CHRIST!**  
*Romans 14:10—" . . . for we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ."*  
  
*Romans 14:12—"So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God."*
  - 2. Unbelievers Will Stand Before JESUS At THE GREAT WHITE THRONE OF JUDGMENT!**  
*Revelation 20:12– "And I saw the dead, small and great stand before God. . ."*

**Conclusion**

Who do you see as the ultimate **AUTHORITY** in your life?  
We can say one thing with our lips but what does our life say?

Are you really recognizing the **AUTHORITY OF JESUS** in your life?  
You will one day! Why not today?

You may call **JESUS** your **LORD**—However, are you being obedient to **HIM? Luke 6:46—"And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?"**