

CouplesInBloom.com – Power Is Not Authority

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When we study earnestly to present ourselves approved to God, workers who do not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the Word of Truth (i.e. the Bible) ⇨ 2 Timothy 2:15 we receive the *spirit* of the Word and not merely the *letter* of it. The evidence of doing this is obvious in folks by spiritual discernment, and even by human observation at times. Sadly, we often see foolishness spoken in the name of “Christianity” or “in Jesus’ name”.

This is one of many distinguishing differences between the human activity of religion and the bi-directional intimacy of human relationship with the one true God, who is alive and converses with us. The Bible frequently describes how Christianity does look foolish to non-Christians because they are yet spiritually blind, thus unable to discern. However, what God calls true Christians to do is discernibly not foolish at all, but divinely wise.

John 8:1-11 ⇨ shows Jesus using wisdom from God. Scribes and Pharisees brought a woman caught in adultery to try to trap Jesus between the Gospel and the Torah. Jesus did not answer their questions ⇨ John 8:6. The Greek phrase *mē prospoioumenos* left out of many translations says Jesus was *not appearing to hear* them. See ⇨ Matthew 27:14.

Jesus received traditional Hebrew Rabbinic training between ages 14 and 30 (often called His ‘silent years’ before starting His ministry at the standard rabbinical age of 30). Rabbis were taught that *the right question is most important*; whereas worldly thinking seeks a selfish answer *without authenticating the question!* This is “*spin*”, it is *sin*, and it is used to deceive people (sales, politics). So Jesus ignored his tempter’s spin and instead communicated (wrote in the dust) **truth that destroyed their trap**, revealing His **authority**.

Many Christians do not seek or have **authority**, which only comes through ongoing intimacy with both the written Word of the Bible and the living Word of the Holy Spirit. People tend to like **power** instead, because it appeals to human senses. Most people are followers, not leaders; followers seek selfish answers, true leaders seek correct questions.

The Bible word in the literal Greek for power is *dunamis*, and for authority is *exousia*. All *exousia* and *dunamis* originate from God, including for the temporary existence of evil chosen by the free will God gave to some of His creation (angels and humans) ⇨ John 19:11. *Dunamis* manifests physically, including miracles. *Exousia* is spiritual, may also manifest physically, and baffles unspiritual people ⇨ Matthew 7:29 and chapter 21.

Unspiritual folks **revere *dunamis***, whether of: evil, good, spiritual or natural... some to the extent of worship! (highest regard). They will be the first on line for ‘the mark of the beast’ (read about this in your Bible for yourself; some folks pervert it into high-sales fiction). These folks are **offended by *exousia***, as are demons, because **authority** is not a mere sensory occurrence as the appearance of power, but rather a **command** from God!

Our world seems ready for end-times disaster: firm in sin. Like Noah, we are to offer help while it is available. Luciferianism is the coming world religion, with *dunamis*: then God will terminate evil and time, and consummate His reign. Until then, press into God and the Bible *like never before* to be able to minister *exousia in trials like never before*. ♥