

Church Authority

Church Authority

The purpose of this document is to use Business Science to define Church Authority. I will be using Business Science to build a Business Model of the different types of church authority and responsibility.

Language of Understanding

Business Science provides us with the common language for understanding how people of diverse talents are brought together for a common purpose. You could say Business Science defines the language of understanding teamwork. This understanding defines team roles and their relationships.

Expert Authority

Talents have been distributed to each of us. Before time began, each of us was uniquely gifted for a special purpose. So, everyone brings with them their measure of expert authority that comes with their special gift. Also, everyone else is responsible for encouraging the organization of those special gifts. I say organization, because it seems they have been given so we have to build teams before they can be useful. In other words, they were designed to work together.

Business Science: How God Controls Authority

So the Church is filled with authority. Every person has some. Business Science will help us understand how it is distributed, and how God controls it for our good. Understanding authority means understanding how God has distributed his gifts, and understanding the teams that have been developed to give those gifts.

Expert Authority Requires Teamwork

To be useful, Expert Authority requires teamwork. We are designed to work together. Even if we think we are independent contributors, we must team up with our Customer(s) and Suppliers. Even independent contributors have teams of Customers and Suppliers. In God's design, they also have Command Authority over their Suppliers. They are responsible for giving God's gift, and with that responsibility includes Command Authority. Understanding the purpose for those gifts helps us understand Command Authority.

Understanding God's Purpose

Teams are organized for a purpose. Teams are: someone doing something for someone else with the help of others. Somebody has to own the team. Somebody has to command the suppliers. Expert Authority relates to what you do for someone else. Command Authority relates to getting help from others. Your Suppliers are your Experts. Your purpose is your expertise. You serve your Customers and you command your Suppliers. You are responsible for your purpose. It is God's gift flowing through you, so you do not own it. But, you own your own Team. You are responsible for encouraging and developing those team relationships.

Church Authority

Kings and Priests

The Church is made up of Kings and Priests. We are all Kings and Priests. Our Kingly functions are out in the World, and our Priestly functions are (back home) in the Church for the purposes of common worship, and strong king development. The Priest in all his roles recognizes God's Anointing. Strong Kings are out there in the World witnessing with their giving. Their giving attracts people and brings provisions to the Worship of the Church.

Priestly Authority

Priestly authority is both Expert and Command Authority. The purpose of common worship requires Command Authority, but the purpose of Kingly development requires Expert Authority. To be useful, Expert Authority must be respected. If the King does not respect the Priest, he will not receive God's gift from the Priest. On the other hand, if he does respect the ability of God to use that Priest, then (independent of the Priest's attitude) he has access to God's expertise. In the Expert role, the Priest is God's servant to the King. In the Command role, the Priest is the King's Commander. The Priest has Command Authority over the common Worship of the Church. Common Worship implies getting people to worship together. This type of organization or teamwork requires a team owner. God is the Customer with Command Authority over the Team Owner. One person, the Priest, is the Team Owner with Command Authority over the Suppliers, and everyone else provides Expert Worship. Of course as we said before, the Suppliers have their own teams.

What about the Money?

What is the Role of Money in the Church? We know that the first part of our worship is to confess our sins, then before we receive communion we bring our offering. If our offering comes from our calling, it will be accepted. The first ten percent is not our offering, it is already God's. It is our tithe. We know the amount over ten percent is our offering. We know we will be protected for our tithe and blessed for our offering, but what happens to our tithes and offerings?

Who has Authority over the Storehouse?

Who has authority over our tithes and offerings? Why is it so much? Is it a bank for use by the Kings? Is it for social work as directed by the Priests? How nice should be the worship facility? How much should the employees of the Church be paid? How much should the local Church tithe to the regional Church and the regional Church to the national Church, and other Church organizations? Aside from money, the authority of the Church is rather simple: common worship and strong king development. What is this storehouse for?

The Purpose of the Storehouse

The purpose of the storehouse is also strong king development and common worship. Kings go out in the world to procure the assets required for strong king development and common worship. Some kings are out in the world doing non-

Church Authority

profit social work, some are doing for-profit work. The Priests, as servants to the Kings in their work, recognize God's gifts in those kings and recognize the teamwork the King has developed to support his gift. When God's gifts are in place and accounted for, then the Priest recognizes a purpose for God's Storehouse. Over time, the effectiveness of the Priest's service is measured by the success of these businesses in fulfilling their charter.

Summary: Church Authority

The purpose of this document has been to use Business Science to define Church Authority. To build a Business Model of the different types of church authority and responsibility, I have been using simple Business Science terms like: Team, Purpose, Customer, Supplier, Expert Authority, Command Authority, and Organization. I also reminded us of the generalized priestly and kingly roles of Christians. In summary: everybody in Church has authority in the Church. The priestly authority in Church (including management of the storehouse) is both command authority and expert authority for the purpose of king development and common worship. The Priest in all his roles, recognizes God's Anointing.