



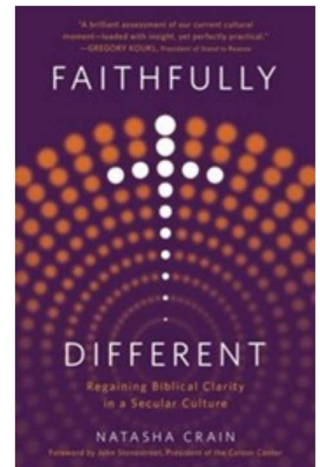
Tuesday, December 19, 2023

What is Your Authority?

Dear Pastor,

I (Dave Skahen) remember getting my driver's license in high school. I was nervous and didn't get the best score. However, it was still euphoric hearing the instructor say, "Well, it wasn't great. But you passed." Freedom now took on a whole new meaning at sixteen years old. However, while I did have incredible freedom, I was still under authority and recognized I could not drive however I wanted. I still had to submit to driving laws and the oversight of local police.

Similarly, every person must ask this question related to how we will live our lives, "Who or what is the ultimate authority in my life?" Answers to this question range from "me," "whatever culture determines," or "if 51% of people say it, I believe it." Essentially, someone can become their source of truth based on their subjective feelings. This is evident especially in the world of politics where some take policy positions purely based on polling.



In contrast, the ultimate source of authority for Christians is God as He has revealed Himself through the Bible. In her book, *Faithfully Different*, Natasha Crain talks about a recent Barna study by Arizona Christian University regarding worldview, where they found that 65% of people self-identify as Christian. Yet, when asked 40 different questions in the study, they found only 6% of people have a biblical worldview. In other words, saying one is a Christian is much different than seeing the world through the lens of the Bible.

The prominent view of authority in America is the authority of self. According to this secular view, Crain says, "Feelings are the ultimate guide, and happiness is the ultimate goal." The problem is that one's heart is deceitfully wicked (Jer. 17:9), and apart from Christ, a person is dead in his/her sins (Eph. 2:1). Once we repent and believe the gospel, Christ calls us to deny ourselves, pick up our cross daily, and follow Him (Luke 9:23). This notion seems strange to a world that's been told to follow their heart and feelings, and nothing is wrong with their heart or their feelings.

This is why it is essential for pastors like you to join us at the Capitol. Elected officials serve in a workplace where they are pressured to make decisions based on culture. It is extremely refreshing for them to be reminded by a pastor in their corner that they are loved regardless of their vote and that there is an authority over them that can guide them in their work. We'd love to have you join us in this opportunity this January. You can sign up [HERE](#).

As true believers, we are called not to look to ourselves, but to the authoritative, inerrant, and sufficient Word of God. Pastor, thank you for your faithfulness in preaching God's Word and standing on His truth as the ultimate authority. Thank you for your boldness for God's Word, whether it is popular or not. May God richly bless you.

In Christ,



Dan Degner

Director, WFC Church
Ambassador Network
920-204-4447, Cell



Dave Lingle

WFC Church
Ambassador
920-342-1928, Cell



Dave Skahen

WFC Church
Ambassador
920-933-0266, Cell

P.S. Please pray this week for state representatives Mike Bare (Verona) and Lori Palmeri (Oshkosh), and Congressman Tom Tiffany (Minocqua).

P.P.S. We'd love to have you join us in advancing the gospel at the Capitol in 2024. You can sign up [HERE](#).