

## The Church's Authorized Work of

**BENEVOLENCE**

- We must have authority for all that we do.

## Matthew 21:23-27

“And when he was come into the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came unto him as he was teaching, and said, By what authority doest thou these things? and who gave thee this authority? And Jesus answered and said unto them, I also will ask you one thing, which if ye tell me, I in like wise will tell you by what authority I do these things. The baptism of John, whence was it? from heaven, or of men? And they reasoned with themselves, saying, If we shall say, From heaven; he will say unto us, Why did ye not then believe him? But if we shall say, Of men; we fear the people; for all hold John as a prophet. And they answered Jesus, and said, We cannot tell. And he said unto them, Neither tell I you by what authority I do these things.”

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- We must have authority for all that we do.
  - This authority does not come from men.
    - “It seems to me...”

## Jeremiah 10:23

“O Lord, I know that the way of man is not in himself: it is not in man that walketh to direct his steps.”

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## Acts 26:9

“I verily thought with myself, that I ought to do many things contrary to the name of Jesus of Nazareth.”

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## Proverbs 14:12

“There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.”



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## Colossians 3:17

“And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.”

## II Corinthians 5:7

“(For we walk by faith, not by sight:)”

## Romans 10:17

“So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.”

## Romans 14:23

“And he that doubteth is damned if he eat, because he eateth not of faith: for whatsoever is not of faith is sin.”

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# I Chronicles 13:1-10

“And David consulted with the captains of thousands and hundreds, and with every leader. And David said unto all the congregation of Israel, If it seem good unto you, and that it be of the Lord our God, let us send abroad unto our brethren every where, that are left in all the land of Israel, and with them also to the priests and Levites which are in their cities and suburbs, that they may gather themselves unto us: And let us bring again the ark of our God to us: for we enquired not at it in the days of Saul. And all the congregation said that they would do so: for the thing was right in the eyes of all the people. So David gathered all Israel together, from Shihor of Egypt even unto the entering of Hemath, to bring the ark of God from Kirjathjearim. And David went up, and all Israel, to Baalah, that is, to Kirjathjearim, which belonged to Judah, to bring up thence the ark of God the Lord, that dwelleth between the cherubims, whose name is called on it. And they carried the ark of God in a new cart out of the house of Abinadab: and Uzza and Ahio drave the cart. And David and all Israel played before God with all their might, and with singing, and with harps, and with psalteries, and with timbrels, and with cymbals, and with trumpets. And when they came unto the threshingfloor of Chidon, Uzza put forth his hand to hold the ark; for the oxen stumbled. And the anger of the Lord was kindled against Uzza, and he smote him, because he put his hand to the ark: and there he died before God.”

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- The church’s work is limited to saints



# I Corinthians 12:14

“For the body is not one member, but many.”

## I Timothy 5:16

“If any man or woman that believeth have widows, let them relieve them, and let not the church be charged; that it may relieve them that are widows indeed.”

## Matthew 18:15-17

“Moreover if thy brother shall trespass against thee, go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone: if he shall hear thee, thou hast gained thy brother. But if he will not hear thee, then take with thee one or two more, that in the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established. And if he shall neglect to hear them, tell it unto the church: but if he neglect to hear the church, let him be unto thee as an heathen man and a publican.”

## Acts 5:2-4

“And kept back part of the price, his wife also being privy to it, and brought a certain part, and laid it at the apostles' feet. But Peter said, Ananias, why hath Satan filled thine heart to lie to the Holy Ghost, and to keep back part of the price of the land? Whiles it remained, was it not thine own? and after it was sold, was it not in thine own power? why hast thou conceived this thing in thine heart? thou hast not lied unto men, but unto God.”

## Notice Every Instance Where the Church Was Involved In Benevolence

- Acts 2:44,45
- Acts 4:34,35
- Acts 6:1-6
- Acts 11:27-30
- Romans 15:25,26
- I Corinthians 16:1,2
- II Corinthians 8 & 9
- I Timothy 5:16

## Galatians 6:9-10

“And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not. As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith.”

## James 1:27

“Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world.”

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- The church’s work is limited to saints
- Man-made institutions are not authorized!



## II Peter 1:3

“According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue:”

## II Timothy 3:16,17

“All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works.”

THE INDIVIDUAL MUST PROVIDE BENEVOLENCE TO ALL AS HE/SHE HAS THE OPPORTUNITY:

“Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world.” (James 1:27)

“As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith.” (Galatians 6:10)

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  - This author is talking about men.
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