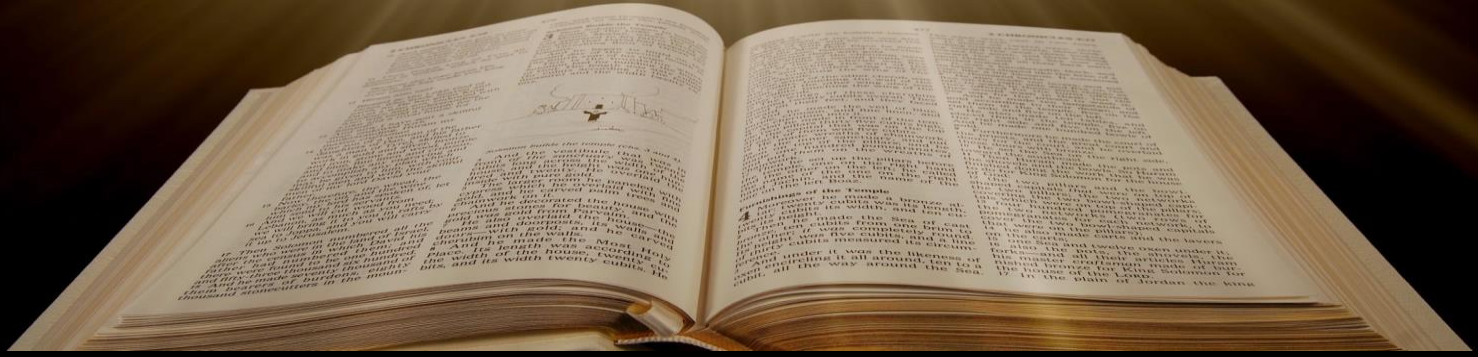


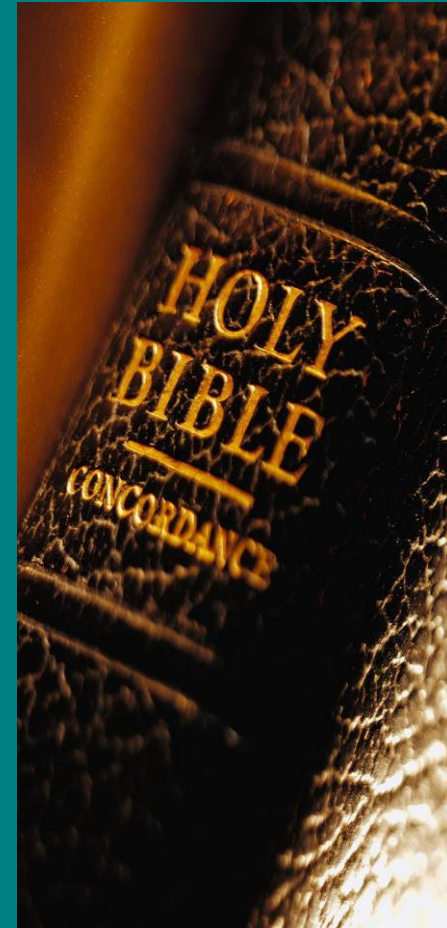
Authority in Religion



What is used as the standard
in the realm of religion today



Shall We Rely Upon the Religion of Our Fathers?

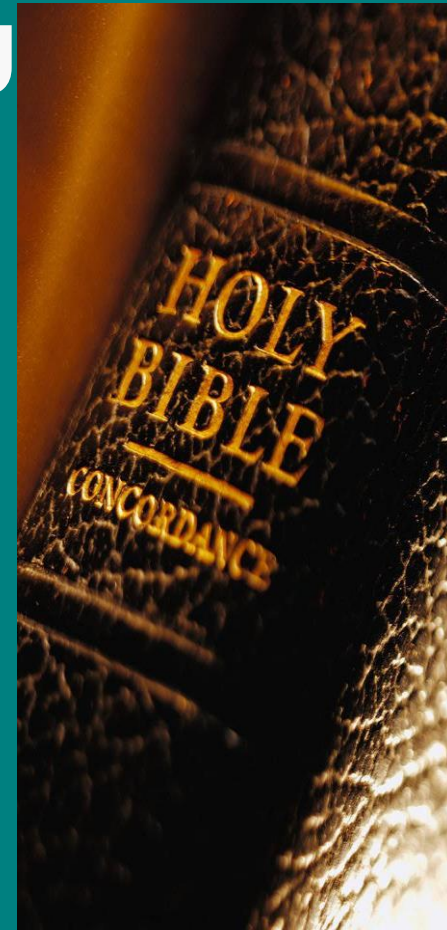


- Paul learned religion of his fathers was wrong
 - Galatians 1:13-14
- We have been redeemed from our former ways
 - 1 Peter 1:18

Shall We Rely Upon the Religion of Our Fathers?



- Jews of Jerusalem were wrong in following in the footsteps of their fathers
 - Acts 7:51-52
- Loving parents more than Christ makes one unworthy to follow Him
 - Matthew 10:34-37

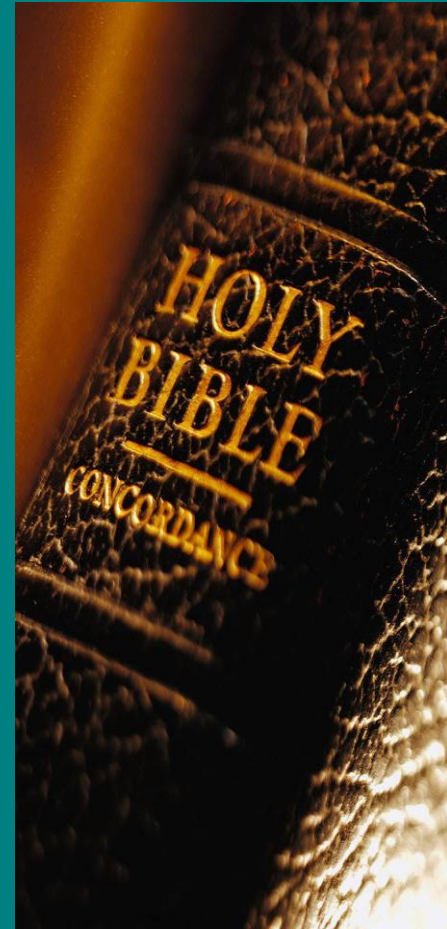


This means that I better do what **I know** is right!

Shall We Rely On Our Conscience as a Safe Guide?



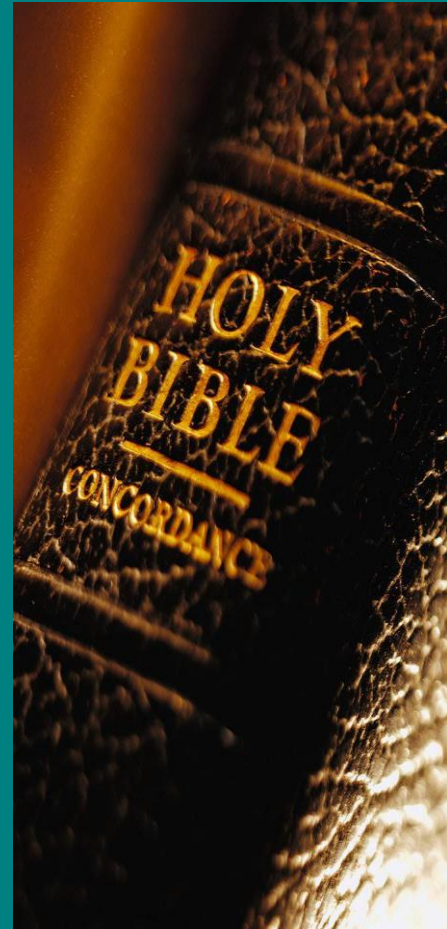
- Solomon warned:
 - Proverbs 16:25
- Many today say “let your conscience be your guide”
 - Acts 23:1



Shall We Rely On Our Conscience as a Safe Guide?



- What did Paul do in “good conscience?”
 - Galatians 1:13
- Paul was honest and sincere when he led the persecution against the church
 - Acts 26:9-11



If Paul's conscience was wrong – so can ours!

Shall We Follow the Decision of the Majority?

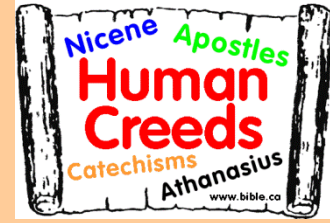


- The majority will be lost
 - Matthew 7:13-14
- God's way has never been popular with the majority of the world
 - Acts 4:19-20
- Paul's encouraging words say:

What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? (Romans 8:31)

Making that statement means we MUST obey!

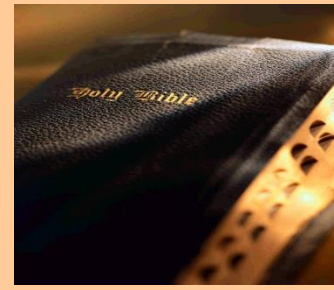
Shall We Submit to the Creeds of Men?



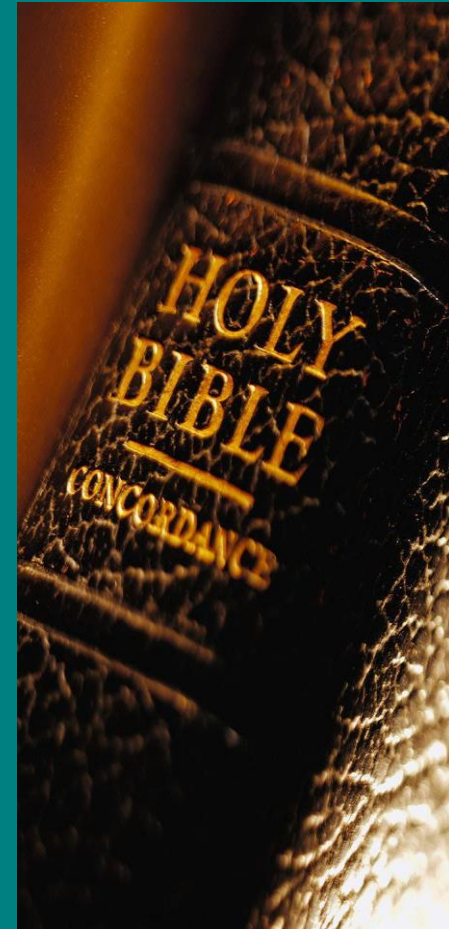
- No man can direct his own ways
 - Jeremiah 10:23
- When following doctrines and creeds of men, then one's religion is in vain
 - Matthew 15:8-9; 1 Corinthians 2:5
- Only the gospel is God's power to save
 - Romans 1:16; Galatians 1:8

Only the gospel is God's power to save!

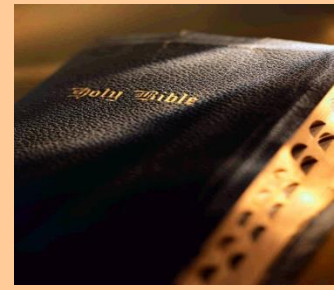
Shall We Accept Only the Bible as Our Authority?



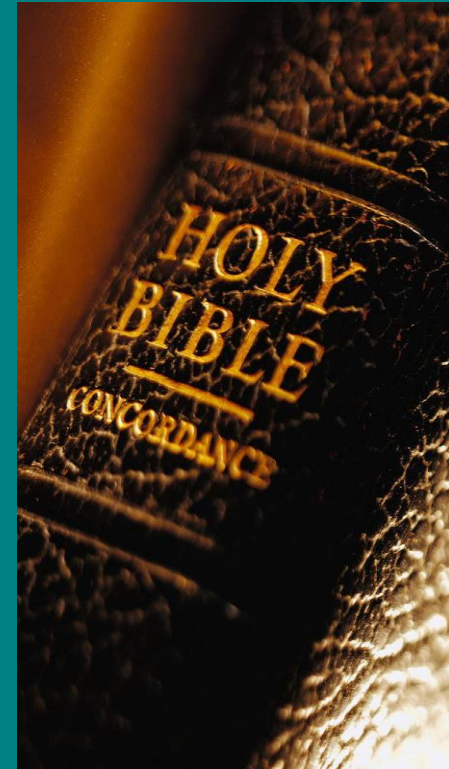
- The Bible is divine
 - 2 Peter 1:21
- Every good work that pleases God is furnished by the Bible
 - 2 Timothy 3:16-17



Shall We Accept Only the Bible as Our Authority?



- The Bible is our “road map” to heaven
 - Acts 20:32
- The Bible is **THE** standard used in judgment



*“He who rejects Me, and does not receive My words, has that which judges him — **the word** that I have spoken will judge him in the last day.”* (John 12:48)

We All Have Freedom of Choice in Religious Matters!

WE CAN

- Rely upon the religion of our fathers
- Rely upon our conscience as a safe guide
- Follow the decision of the majority
- Submit to the creeds of men in religion
- Accept the Bible as our authority in religion

What is **TRUE** authority? **GOD'S HOLY WORD!**

LUKE 6:46

"But why do you call Me 'Lord, Lord,' and not do the things which I say?"