

Church Authority?

The church has no authority except what the Testament of Christ prescribes to it, and as the executor of it

The New Testament was established by Christ and the will of His Testament was revealed by his Apostles and Prophets.

Heb 9:14-17 How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God? (15) And for this cause **he is the mediator of the new testament**, that by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions *that were* under the first testament, they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance. (16) For where a testament *is*, there must also of necessity be the death of the testator. (17) **For a testament is of force after men are dead: otherwise it is of no strength at all while the testator liveth.**

**The appointment of any executorships of any testament is made prior to the testators death.
The New Testament Executorship is established.**

Mat 26:26-28 And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed *it*, and brake *it*, and gave *it* to the disciples, and said, Take, eat; this is my body. (27) And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave *it* to them, saying, Drink ye all of it; (28) **For this is my blood of the new testament**, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.

Luk 22:19-20 And he took bread, and gave thanks, and brake *it*, and gave unto them, saying, This is my body which is given for you: this do in remembrance of me. (20) Likewise also the cup after supper, saying, **This cup is the new testament in my blood, which is shed for you.**

The bread represents the sacrificed body of Jesus and the church body for which he purchased with his own blood.

1Co 10:16-17 The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the communion of the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not the communion of the body of Christ? (17) **For we being many are one bread**, and one body: for we are all partakers of that one bread.

The bread is the communion of the memory of body of Christ that died for us. We as one bread, one body together eating that one bread are to be in proper relationship with one another and Christ to confirm the responsibility of the Testament that is in the cup. Remembering that by death the Testament is established, and in the cup. By drinking the cup, we accept the testament as executors and confirm our loyalty to it. And that the will of Christ the testator will be carried out to the fullest degree by us.

**The laws of the Testament are now taught to us through doctrine; doctrine of the Apostles.
This is the laws of the Testator revealed through his Apostles.**

Act 2:41-42 Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added *unto them* about three thousand souls. (42) And they continued stedfastly in the **apostles' doctrine** and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.

Eph 3:4-6 Whereby, when ye read, ye may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ) (5) Which in other ages was not made known unto the sons of men, as it is now **revealed unto his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit**; (6) That the Gentiles should be fellowheirs, and of the same body, and partakers of his promise in Christ by the gospel:

There are different gifts given to the church (institutionally speaking); different administrators and different operations

1Co 12:4-6 Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. (5) And there are differences of administrations, but the same Lord. (6) And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which worketh all in all.

In regard to gifts of administrations, He set in the church first; Apostles and Prophets

1Co 12:27-28 Now ye are the body of Christ, and members in particular. (28) And God hath set some in the church, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, governments, diversities of tongues.

Christ gave these gifts to the church (institutionally speaking) Pastors and teachers continue the teaching of the Apostles and Prophets

Eph 4:11-14 And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; (12) For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: (13) Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ: (14) That we *henceforth* be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, *and* cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;

2Pe 3:1-2 This second epistle, beloved, I now write unto you; in *both* which I stir up your pure minds by way of remembrance: (2) That ye may be mindful of the words which were spoken before by the holy prophets, and of the commandment of us the apostles of the Lord and Saviour:

The Apostles teach what Christ taught them

Jud 1:17 But, beloved, remember ye the words which were spoken before of the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ;

What are the laws of His Testament?

The authority of the church is confined to the laws of His Testament which was established by Christ and is revealed to us by His Prophets and Apostles through doctrine. The churches of Christ are never to legislate law but only to enforce the laws of His New Testament. The appointment of this Testament and its laws are also known as kingdom law.

The appointment of His Testament is also known as the kingdom. This appointment allows the church to continue to attend the Lords Supper as the executors of His Kingdom. Without this appointment, we would not be able to sit at the Lords Table (Lords Supper). That ye may sit!

Luk 22:29-30 And I appoint unto you a kingdom, as my Father hath appointed unto me; (30) That ye may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom, and sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

Act 1:2-3 Until the day in which he was taken up, after that he through the Holy Ghost had given commandments unto the apostles whom he had chosen: (3) To whom also he shewed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God:

The church has become the divine depository of His Testament and kingdom by way of Christ Himself.

