

Seven Practical Spiritual Gifts
The Gift of Ruling
(Romans 12:8)

Expounding the Word of God

- I. Prophecy—The Inspiration of Truth
- II. Ministry—The Incarnation of Truth
- III. Teaching—The Interpretation of Truth
- IV. Exhortation—The Intention of Truth

Expanding the Word of God

- V. Giving
- VI. Ruling. *"...he that ruleth, with diligence..."*
 - Ruler—one who is placed over, who presides, or rules
 - A. First mention of ruling in the Scripture—
_____.
 - B. _____ will rule in righteousness during the millennial kingdom (Isa. 32:1; Rev 2:27).
 - C. _____ are expected to rule the church (Heb. 13:7)
 - D. Rulers are to be _____ in their area of responsibilities.

- Diligence—to speed, urge, hasten, press. Speed, haste, earnestness, diligence, zeal.

1. Those that rule must “ _____ ” to themselves (Acts 20:28; I Cor. 10:12; I Tim 4:16).

2. Those that rule must give _____ attention to those under their care (Heb. 13:17; I Tim. 3:4, 12; Acts 20:28).

3. Those that rule will give _____ of their area of responsibility (James 3:1; Heb. 13:17).

4. Rulers may _____ authority to others to accomplish tasks under their supervision.

a. _____ appointed other men to judge in lesser matters (Ex 18:25–26).

b. The _____ appointed men to take care of situations in the church so they could give themselves to ministering and prayer (Acts 6:1–7).

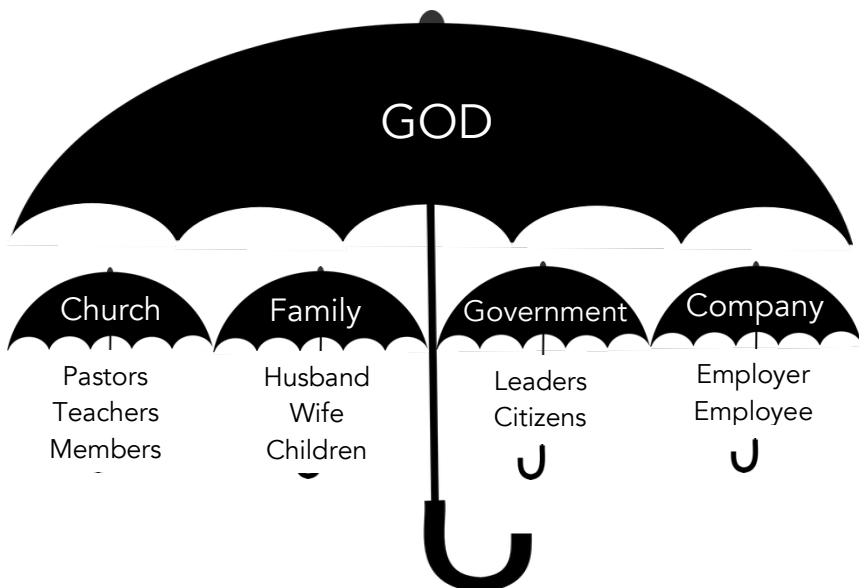
E. There are four God-given jurisdictions of authority

1. _____—husbands and parents (Eph 5:21–29; 6:1–4; Col 3:18–21).

2. _____ leaders (Rom. 13:1; Titus 3:1; I Peter 2:13–17)
3. _____ leadership (Heb. 13:7; 17; I Pe. 5:5; Eph 5:21).
4. _____ (I Pe. 2:18; Titus 2:9; Eph 6:5; Col. 3:22; I Tim. 6:1–2).

F. The Purpose of authority

- The best illustration of what authority accomplishes is that of an umbrella. An umbrella is designed to provide protection from various elements of nature: rain, hail, snow, wind, or sunshine. As long as a person is under an umbrella, he finds shelter from harsh weather conditions. If he steps out from under the umbrella, he exposes himself to the environment.



1. All jurisdictions of authority should operate under God's authority.
2. Every jurisdiction of authority should be operating in harmony with each other.
3. Those ruling must maintain the purpose of protecting those in their jurisdiction.
4. When one lives their life under the Lord's jurisdiction, they will live harmoniously in each of the jurisdictions that Lord has given them (Col 3:23).
5. Those under an umbrella of authority should submit in order to receive protection and blessing. When there is a failure to submit, Satan gains an advantage through rebellion in that individual's life (Eph. 4:27).
6. One must never obey an authority that brings them out from the Lord's protection and blessing (Acts 5:29).
7. A ruler that is abusive, negligent, or self-serving will not sufficiently protect those under him and will face God's judgment (I Sam. 15:13–28; James 3:1).