Authority

<u>Malachi 1:6</u> "A son honors his father, And a servant his master. If then I am the Father, Where is My honor? And if I am a Master, Where is My reverence? Says the LORD of hosts To you priests who despise My name. Yet you say, 'In what way have we despised Your name?'

<u>Authority</u> = The power or right to do something, particularly to give orders and see that they are followed. The right to do certain things because of the position or office held. This word emphasizes the legality and right, more than the physical strength, needed to do something.

<u>There is no authority except from God.</u> (Rom 13:1), Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God.

God rules governments. (Dan 4:17) This decision is by the decree of the watchers, And the sentence by the word of the holy ones, In order that the living may know That the Most High rules in the kingdom of men, Gives it to whomever He will, And sets over it the lowest of men.'

(Dan 4:34) And at the end of the time I, Nebuchadnezzar, lifted my eyes to heaven, and my understanding returned to me; and I blessed the Most High and praised and honored Him who lives forever: For His dominion is an everlasting dominion, And His kingdom is from generation to generation. 35 All the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing; He does according to His will in the army of heaven And among the inhabitants of the earth. No one can restrain His hand Or say to Him, "What have You done?"

<u>God's authority is absolute</u>. (Psalm 29:10) The LORD sat enthroned at the Flood, And the LORD sits as King forever.

He has authority over nature. (Job 38)

<u>God has authority over history.</u> (Acts 1:7) And He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has put in His own authority.

Acts 17:24-31

<u>God has authority to send people to hell.</u> (Luke 12:5). "But I will show you whom you should fear: Fear Him who, after He has killed, has power to cast into hell; yes, I say to you, fear Him!

Because the Bible is inspired by God (<u>2 Tim 3:16</u>; <u>2 Peter 1:20-21</u>), it has divine power and authority. God did not give the Scriptures to be read only, but to be read, believed and obeyed.