

# Luke 7:8

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

For I also am a man set under authority, having under me soldiers, and I say unto one, Go, and he goeth; and to another, Come, and he cometh; and to my servant, Do this, and he doeth it.

## Analysis

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**For I also am a man set under authority, having under me soldiers, and I say unto one, Go, and he goeth; and to another, Come, and he cometh; and to my servant, Do this, and he doeth it.** The centurion's logic is profound: hypoxousian tassomenos (ὕπὸ ἐξουσίαν τασσόμενος, set under authority)—his power to command flows from being under higher authority. He recognizes Jesus operates under divine authority, making His commands absolutely effective.

The present tenses (goes, comes, does) emphasize immediate, unquestioning obedience to authorized commands. The centurion's analogy reasons from lesser to greater: if his limited human authority produces obedience, how much more Christ's divine authority over sickness and death? This understanding of delegated divine authority underlies all biblical faith—we trust Christ's word because it carries God's own authority.

## Historical Context

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A centurion commanded approximately 80-100 soldiers and answered to military tribunes and the legion legate. Roman military discipline was legendary for absolute obedience—orders were executed without hesitation. This centurion saw

spiritual reality mirrored in military structure: Jesus' authority came from the Father.

## Related Passages

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**Ephesians 2:8** — Salvation by grace through faith

**Romans 10:9** — Confession and belief for salvation

## Study Questions

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1. How does submitting to Christ's authority empower you to exercise spiritual authority in prayer and ministry?
2. What does the centurion's reasoning teach about the relationship between obedience to God and effectiveness in service?
3. How can understanding Jesus' delegated authority from the Father strengthen your confidence in His promises?

## Interlinear Text

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καὶ	γὰρ	ἐγὼ	ἄνθρωπος	εἰμι	ὑπ'	ἐξουσίαν	τασσόμενος
also	For	I	a man	am	under	authority	set
G2532	G1063	G1473	G444	G1510	G5259	G1849	G5021

ἔχων	ὑπ'	ἐμαυτὸν	στρατιώτας	καὶ	λέγω	τούτῳ
having	under	me	soldiers	also	I say	unto one
G2192	G5259	G1683	G4757	G2532	G3004	G5129

πορεύεται	καὶ	πορεύεται	καὶ	ἄλλῳ	ἔρχεται	καὶ
Go	also	Go	also	to another	Come	also
G4198	G2532	G4198	G2532	G243	G2064	G2532

ἔρχεται	καὶ	τῷ	δούλῳ	μου	ποιεῖ	τοῦτο	καὶ	ποιεῖ
Come	also	G3588	servant	to my	Do	this	also	Do
G2064	G2532		G1401	G3450	G4160	G5124	G2532	G4160

