All the Greek Words for “Authority” Used in the New Testament

From Vines Dictionary: 1849 Authority, Noun, exousia denotes "authority" (from the impersonal verb exesti, "it is lawful"). From the meaning of "leave or permission," or liberty of doing as one pleaseats, it passed to that of "the ability or strength with which one is endued," then to that of the "power of authority," the right to exercise power, e.g., Matt. 9:6; 21:23; 2 Cor. 10:8; or "the power of rule or government," the power of one whose will and commands must be obeyed by others, e.g., Matt. 28:18; John 17:2; Jude 1:25; Revelation. 12:10; 17:13: more specifically of apostolic "authority," 2 Cor. 10:8; 13:10; the "power" of judicial decision, John 19:10; of "managing domestic affairs," Mark 13:34. By metonymy, or name-change (the substitution of a suggestive word for the name of the thing meant), it stands for "that which is subject to authority or rule," Luke 4:6 (RV, "authority," for the AV "power"); or, as with the English "authority," "one who possesses authority, a ruler, magistrate," Romans. 13:1-3; Luke 12:11; Titus 3:1; or "a spiritual potentate," e.g., Eph. 3:10; 6:12; Col. 1:16; 2:10,15; 1 Pet. 3:22. The RV usually translates it "authority." In 1 Cor. 11:10 it is used of the veil with which a woman is required to cover herself in an assembly or church, as a sign of the Lord's "authority" over the church.

About Christ: Verses using 1849

Christ has authority to execute judgment-John 5:27, authority over His own life and resurrection-John 10:18, authority over all flesh to give eternal life-John 17:2, taught as having authority-Matthew 7:29, authority to forgive sins-Mark 1:22, Mark 9:6, Mark 2:10, Luke 5:24, authority to heal-Matthew 9:8, authority to cast out demons-Mark 1:27, Luke 4:36, message of Christ with authority-Luke 4:32, all authority is given to Christ-Matthew 28:18, Jewish leaders question the source of Jesus' authority: Matthew 21:23-24, 27, Mark 11:28-29, 33, Luke 20:2, 8, Devil promises Jesus authority over all the kingdoms of the world-Luke 4:6, Jesus under authority-Matthew 8:9, Luke 7:8, Christ is above all angelic authority-Ephesians 1:21, Authorities in Heaven and Earth were created by Christ-Colossians 1:16, Christ is the head of all authorities-Colossians 2:10, All angelic authorities have been made subject to Christ. 1Peter 3:22

About Believers: Verses using 1849


The Father’s Authority: Verses using 1849

God the Father’s authority to cast into Hell- Luke 12:5, the times and seasons are in the Father’s authority-Acts 1:7, The Creator has authority to make whatever He wants-
Romans 9:21, God the Father will put down all authorities in the end-1 Corinthians 15:24

**Secular Authority: Verses using 1849**


**Christ, Fallen angels and Demonic Authority: Verses using 1849**

The authority of darkness-Luke 22:53, The authority of Satan-Act 26:18, Christ is above all angelic authority-Ephesians 1:21, Satan called the prince of the authority of the air-Ephesians 2:2, Authorities in Heavenly Places-Ephesians 3:10, authorities of darkness-Ephesians 6:12, delivered from the authority of darkness-Colossians 1:13, authorities in Heaven and Earth were created by Christ-Colossians 1:16, Christ is the head of all authorities-Colossians 2:10, Christ spoiled authorities-Colossians 2:15. all angelic authorities have been made subject to Christ-1 Peter 3:22, authority of Christ proclaimed when accuser is cast down-Revelation 12:10

**Authority in Judgment Given by God: Verses using 1849**

Given to pale horse, Death and Hell-Revelation 6:8, Authority in Judgment given to locust and scorpions-Revelation 9:3, Authority in Judgment given to hurt men-Revelation 9:10, authority in judgment given to scorpions-Revelation 9:19, authority in stop rain and over waters given to 2 witnesses-Revelation 11:6, authority given to the beast(s)-Revelation 13:2, 4, 5, 7, 12, angel has authority over fire-Revelation 14:18, authority of God over plagues-Revelation 16:9, authority of the kings was given-Revelation 17:12, kings give authority to Beast-Revelation 17:13, angel with great authority-Revelation 18:1, the second death has no authority over believers-Revelation 20:6

**Miscellaneous Verses using 1849**

Human authority over property-Acts 5:4, A father's authority over his own will to decide matters of his family-1 Corinthians 7:37, authority to eat food sacrificed to idols (translated as liberty)-1 Corinthians 8:9, authority in the Gospel to be supported and to travel with a wife-1 Corinthians 9:4-6, 12, 18, 2 Thessalonians 3:9, authority on the woman's head because of the angels-1 Corinthians 11:10, Paul's authority for edification and not for destruction-2 Corinthians 10:8. The Levitical Priesthood has no authority to eat from Christ' altar-Hebrews 13:10, all authority to our God both now and ever-Jude 1:25, Simon asks improperly for authority to minister the Holy Spirit-Acts 8:19


Vine’s Dictionary 5247: Authority, Noun, ἐπιρέσχω, primarily, "a projection, eminence" as a mountain peak, hence, metaphorically, "pre-eminence, superiority, excellency," is once rendered "authority," 1 Tim. 2:2, AV (marg., "eminent place"), RV, "high place," of the position of magistrates; in 1 Cor. 2:1, "excellency" (of speech). Cp. ἐπιρεχόω, "to surpass."

Verses using 5247: Excellency (authority) of speech—1 Corinthians 2:1, prayer for those in high places (authority)—1 Timothy 2:2.

Vines’s Dictionary 831: Authority, Verb, authenteō, from autos, "self," and a lost noun hentes, probably signifying working (Eng., "authentic"), "to exercise authority on one’s own account, to domineer over," is used in 1 Tim. 2:12, AV, "to usurp authority," RV, "to have dominion." In the earlier usage of the word it signified one who with his own hand killed either others or himself. Later it came to denote one who acts on his own authority; hence, "to exercise authority, dominion."

Verse using 831: Command for women not to dominate (usurp authority over) men: 1 Timothy 2:12.

Vine’s Dictionary 2003: Authority, Noun, epitage, an injunction (from epi, "upon," tasso, "to order"), is once rendered "authority," Titus 2:15 (RV, marg., "commandment"). The corresponding verb is epitasso, "to command."

Verses using 2003: God commands—Romans 16:26, Paul speaks by permission on this subject not by commandment of God—1 Corinthians 7:6, 25, 2 Corinthians 8:8, Paul is an apostle and has a commitment by the command of God—1 Timothy 1:1, Titus 1:3, Timothy is to speak, exhort and rebuke with all authority—Titus 2:15.

Vine’s Dictionary 2715: Authority, Verb, katexousiazō, kata, "down," intensive, "to exercise authority upon," is used in Matthew 20:25; Mark 10:42.

Verses using 2715: Believers not to exercise authority downward/applied upon other believes like gentile kings—Matthew 20:25, Mark 10:42.

God puts down the mighty—Luke 1:52, An eunuch of great authority—Act 8:27, God is the only Potentate—1 Timothy 6:15

The numbers associated with each Greek word are from the Strong’s numbering system. This document was prepared and provided freely for study purposes by Dr. Roger Sapp, All Nations Ministries. There are many other documents like it on www.allnationsmin.org