

Establishing Bible Authority

How God Communicates to You

And truly Jesus did many other signs in the presence of His disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name (John 20:30-31).

Establishing Bible Authority

CENI

Commands

Examples

Necessary Inferences

3 Basic Means of Communication

1. God tells us His Will
(Commands / Statements)
2. God shows us His Will
(Examples / Models)
3. God implies to us His Will
(Principles / Gestures)



How God Communicates to You

Challenging CENI



CENI was probably the biggest reason I
“CENI is a tool. We were taught that well.
left the CoC. It has several major flaws,
But as I've grown and re-examined - it
the biggest of which is that the "NI" part is
feels like some of it was reverse
usually just used as an excuse for post
engineering where the conclusion was
hoc reasoning.
regionally, locally, pseudo-
CENI treats the gospels and letters as if
denominationally decided - so we always
they are a rulebook meant to derive a set
got to the same result, even when
of unbreakable laws, particularly laws by
variables were introduced that should
which others are bound. "If the Son sets
have given us pause. Grown up reality
you free, then you are free indeed."
from yearly NI read - conclusions are not
as simple as previously decided.
I have a problem with the "authorization
fallacy" entirely. I think the idea that one
(Facebook thread discussing Bible
Authority)
has to find some kind of authorization to
do anything is, on its own, theologically
false.



Basic Communication

1. We tell others (employees, children, students) what we expect.
2. We show others what we want and how to accomplish it.
3. We imply certain details and we expect others to infer (get-it).



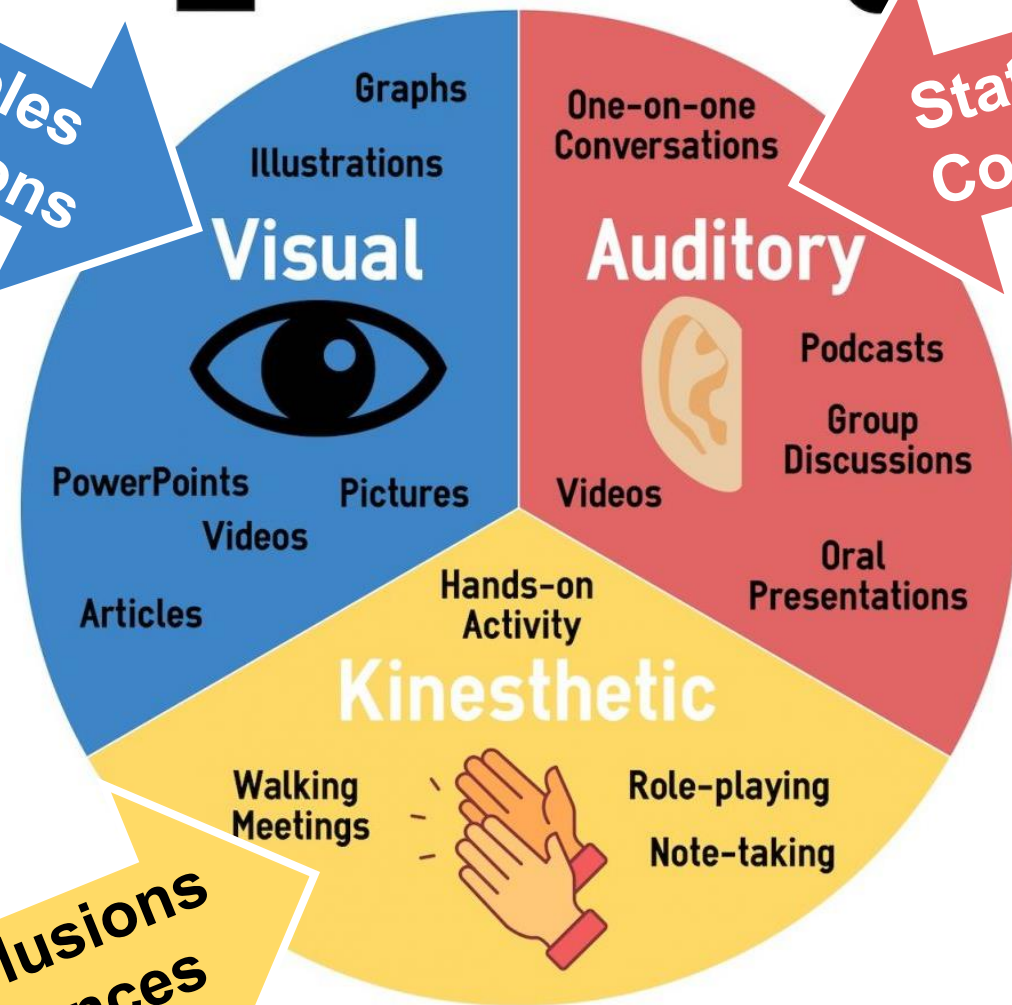


LEARNING STYLES

Examples
Illustrations

Statements
Commands

Conclusions
Inferences



Commands / Statements

Given Examples

Forced Conclusions



This indicated that...

...the O.T. Stated what was expected!

...the O.T. Showed what was expected!

...the O.T. Gave enough information to Necessarily Infer what was expected!

Commands / Statements

Given Examples

Forced Conclusions



The Circumcision Debate

The disciples understood that...

...the O.T. Stated what was God's Will!

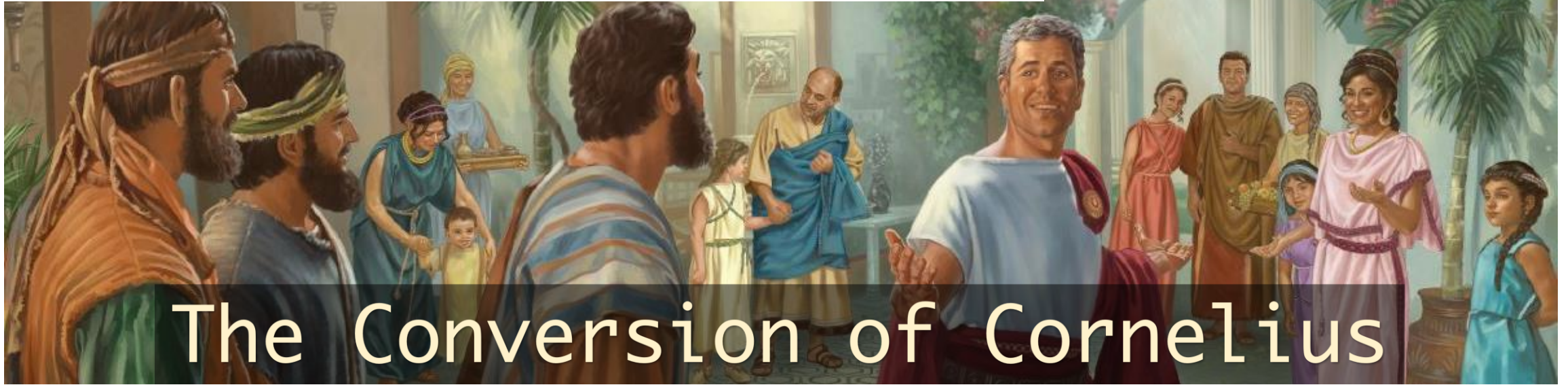
...gentile conversions w/o circumcision Showed what was God's Will!

...God directing Peter to go to the gentiles, he Necessarily Inferred what was God's Will!

Commanded Directly

Given Illustration

Forced Conclusion



The Conversion of Cornelius

There are only so many ways to communicate, and these will always require some form of:

1. Telling!
2. Showing!
3. Implying!

If there is another way of communicating, don't tell what it is—don't show what it is, and don't imply what it is.

**Respect and emulate
positive God approved examples**

Infer the Necessary Conclusions from available Bible Data

(From 3:12-14) The following is a summary
 of the following
 example of necessity which is a
 danger of the law of ME or the of whom these
 things are spoken belongs to another
 tribe, from which no man has officiated at
 also shall the freshly hosts praise you,
 the altar. For it is evident that our Lord
 brethren, that you remember me in all
 statements to respect which I have
 things and keep the traditions just as I
 spoke before and concerning priesthood.
 delivered them to you.
 saved...

Examples

A close-up photograph of a person's hand pointing their index finger at a specific line of text in an open book. The book is open to a page with dense, small text, likely a legal or historical document. The lighting is focused on the hand and the page, with the background being dark.

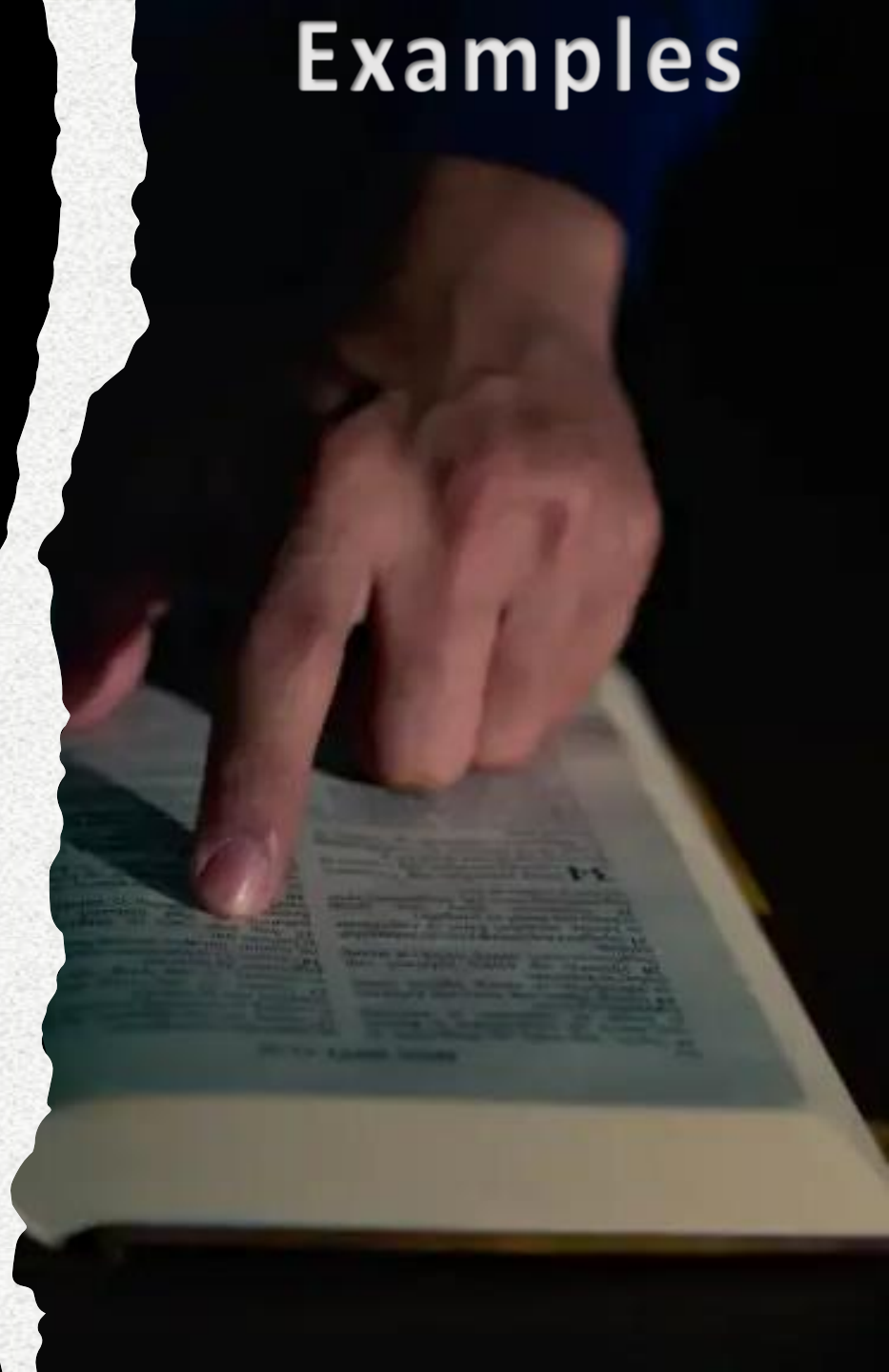
“Since many sincere interpreters contend that incidental historical details, which we have considered as examples, have the same authority that commands have, it is appropriate here to ask, which examples are binding.”

“No examples are binding! An example shows how a command may be obeyed...but an example does not necessarily illustrate the only way.”

(In commenting on Acts 20:7) “If a person derives the benefit of this remembrance on Wednesday instead of Sunday, does it suddenly become a curse instead of a blessing?”

Examples

- We cannot presume to know what God permits, 1 Cor 2:9-11.
- Told to follow the apostles' examples, Phil 3:17; 4:9.
- Pause to Consider:
 1. What does the example show?
 - a) A positive example shows God's approval of an action—He is NOT silent.
 - b) It reveals what God has sanctioned:
 - Elders appointed in every church, Acts 14:13.
 - Support of preachers in evangelistic work, Phil 4:16.
 - 1st Day of the Week observance of the Lord's Supper, Acts 20:7.



Examples

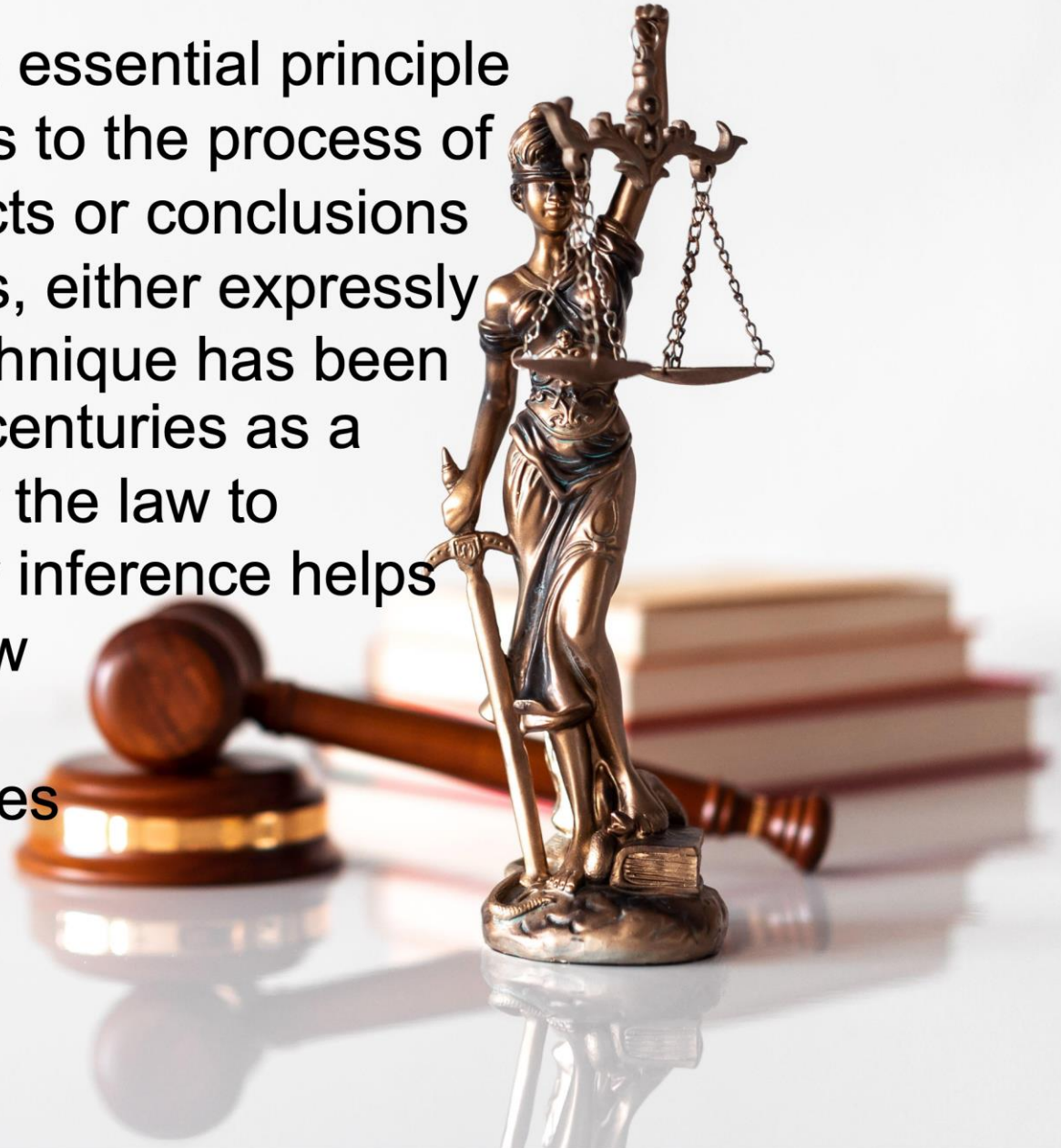
2. What then is to be my attitude toward these divinely approved examples?
 - a) Since I know God approves—then why would I **not** want to follow them?
 - b) To ask, “is that example binding” is really asking: “do I really have to follow what God has shown pleases Him?”
3. Incidental details are not to be considered necessary, Acts 20:7-9.
4. If I love the Lord, why would I not wish to respect and follow the examples of the apostles and the early church (Jn 13:2-15; Lk 10:25-37) that I know pleases Him?

UNDERSTANDING

The *of* **Necessary** **Law** **Inference**

The Law and Necessary Inference

Necessary inference is an essential principle in legal reasoning. It refers to the process of logically deducing new facts or conclusions from established premises, either expressly stated or implied. This technique has been used in the legal field for centuries as a way to interpret and apply the law to specific cases. Necessary inference helps to fill in any gaps in the law or in the facts of a case, allowing lawyers and judges to come to informed and logical conclusions.



By Necessary Inference

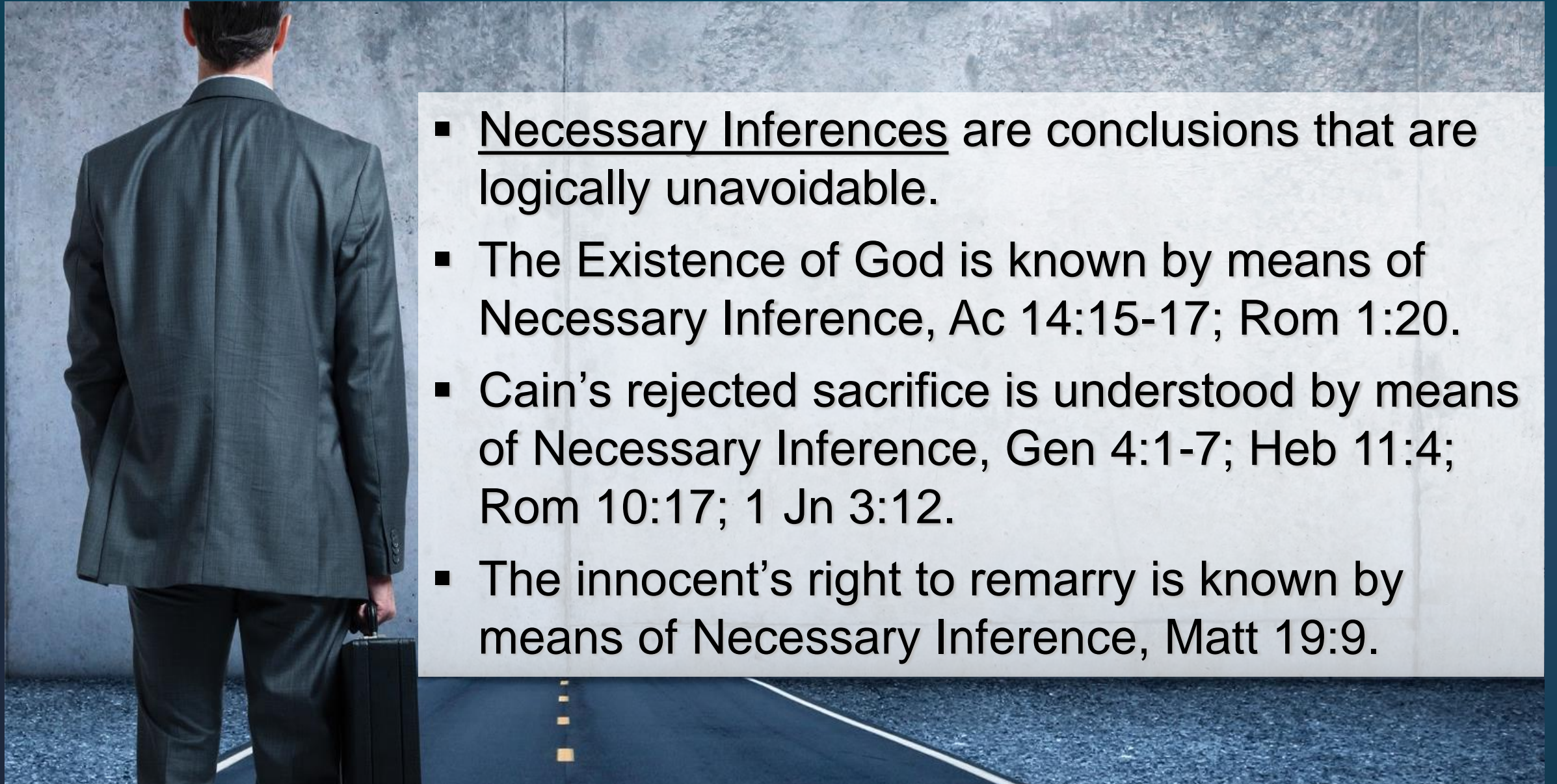
One can Know & Understand



John was to draw a necessary inference: “And when John had heard in prison about the works of Christ, he sent two of his disciples and said to Him, These Christians were to draw a necessary inference: “For the priesthood being changed, of necessity there is also a change of the law. For He of whom these things are spoken belongs to another tribe, from which no man has officiated at the altar. For it is evident that our Lord arose from Judah, of which tribe Moses spoke nothing concerning priesthood” (Heb 7:12-14). because of Me” (Matt 11:3-5).

By Necessary Inference

One can Know & Understand



- Necessary Inferences are conclusions that are logically unavoidable.
- The Existence of God is known by means of Necessary Inference, Ac 14:15-17; Rom 1:20.
- Cain's rejected sacrifice is understood by means of Necessary Inference, Gen 4:1-7; Heb 11:4; Rom 10:17; 1 Jn 3:12.
- The innocent's right to remarry is known by means of Necessary Inference, Matt 19:9.

By Necessary Inference

One can Know & Understand



- That 21st Century Americans should become Christians, Matt 28:18-20, Acts 17:30-31.
- That all believers everywhere are to observe the Lord's Supper today, Lk 22:15-20; 1 Cor 11:23-34.
- That the greatest command is to love God with all heart, soul, strength and mind, Matt 22:34-40.
- That we should practice the "golden rule," Matt 7:12.
- That I (J.R.) should be baptized, Acts 2:38; Acts 22:16.

Establishing Bible Authority

How God Communicates to You

If only commands are binding—then how do we make applications to those commands—if we cannot infer?

Lk 10:37, “*Go and do likewise.*” (Is driving a neighbor’s sick child to the hospital obeying this—or can it only be obeyed by doing exactly what the Samaritan did?)



How God Communicates to You

1. God states to us His Will in the Scriptures via Commands and/or Statements for us to respect and obey.
2. God shows to us His Will in the Scriptures via Examples / Models for us to reverently follow.
3. God implies to us His Will in the Scriptures via Principles / Gestures for us to logically conclude what to do.

