

As we can see, the Greek definition does contain the concept of a person who "has authority" over others. But it also can be "leadership" of any kind. "Authority" is the way "rule" is defined in the world---in fact this is exactly how Jesus defined "rule" ---but in the world! (see Matthew 20:25-28, Mark 10: 42-45, Luke 22:25-26)

Have we defined this word "rule over" in the worldly way? Or have we defined it the way that Jesus said to define it?

Can we let the Bible define itself?  
Can we let Jesus define Christian leadership?

The same exact Greek word-- "hegeomai" is used in Jesus' description of what He wants "rule" to be within the church.....

**“ And he said unto them, The kings of the Gentiles exercise lordship over them; and they that exercise authority upon them are called benefactors. But ye shall not be so: but he that is greatest among you, let him be as the younger; and he that is chief (hegeomai), as he that doth serve.”** (Luke 22:25-26)

Jesus defines "hegeomai" specifically as service to others--rather than "authority over" others. The translators used the word "chief" rather than "rule over" as in Hebrews--but it is the very same Greek word!

**Christian ministry--Christian leadership is specifically NOT rule with authority over others!!!**

Jesus clearly defined leadership in the world as being the use of authority over others---and clearly defined leadership within the church as service to all---Therefore it must be that those that "have the rule over you" in the book of Hebrews must be the servants of all--NOT people who exercise authority over others!

The bottom line question is this: How much time do we spend "submitting to authority" and how much time do we spend together, witnessing the Gospel?

In Bible times, the leaders of the church were organizing ALL the people toward their ministry. The church in the Bible operated apostolically--small groups, which met usually in their own homes, and worked together to witness the Gospel out to the world. The job of the leaders was to organize "ministry" which the Bible tells us is "a gift given unto every one of us" (Ephesians ch.4). The church of the Bible witnessed the Gospel of salvation, healing, and deliverance in Jesus' name. They fed the poor which were among them, and they freely released one another to serve God with ALL the gifts of ALL the people. Brotherhood and commonness was the operational basis---and specifically NOT rule with authority over one another.

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