

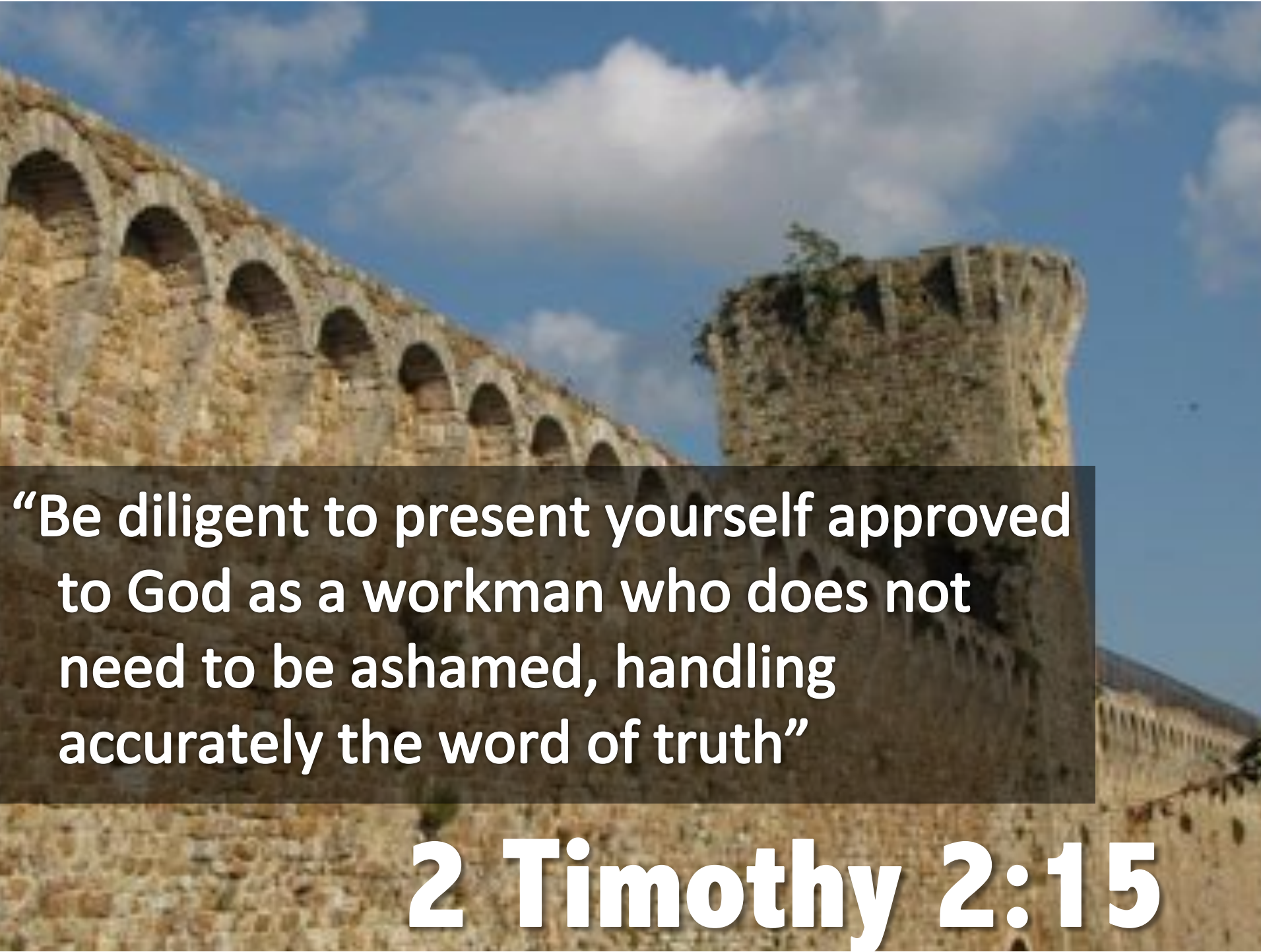
Understanding Bible Authority





Part Three:

**Are We Being
Clear?**



**“Be diligent to present yourself approved
to God as a workman who does not
need to be ashamed, handling
accurately the word of truth”**

2 Timothy 2:15

Tidying Up

- While our intentions might not be the problem, the way we explain Biblical concepts can often cause confusion for those who disagree with us.
- How we handle the Bible matters.
- *‘We can only do what they did in the New Testament’ ... Really?*

**“We can only do what they
did in the New Testament!”
*Really?***



Confusing Explanations

- Labeling ourselves as ‘New Testament’ or ‘First Century’ Christians
- Throwing around ‘conservative’ and ‘liberal’
- Confusion over the deceased being ‘in heaven right now’
- Tying ourselves to the Stone-Campbell Movement
- Using terms that never appear in the Bible, such as ‘Plan of Salvation’

Unlawful vs. Illegal



MOHAWK

You're doing it wrong.

Unlawful vs. Illegal

- We appear crazy for applying this logic to our interpretation of the Bible.
- Several examples from the Bible show that God considers many things “unlawful” even when not explicitly “illegal” (Matthew 12:4, Leviticus 24:5-9, 1 Chron. 13:9ff, Numbers 4:15).
- Scripture pertaining to NT worship music (Eph. 5:19, Col. 3:16) is a fitting application of 1 Cor. 4:6.
- 2 Timothy 1:13 commands us to retain a standard of sound words, like standards in cooking.



“Retain the standard of sound words which you have heard from me, in the faith and love which are in Christ Jesus”

2 Timothy 1:13

Context, Context, Context

- We do great harm when we force an explanation on scripture when context does not dictate it (John 5:18).
- To whom was the command given? Keep the Bible's timeline in your mind (Luke 16:16).
- Is it saying what you think it is? Do not assume an interpretation just because it sounds good or it is traditional.

