Biblical View on Authority

Student’s Name

Institution

Biblical View on Authority

Authority is a highly essential part of any society as it ensures that the people therein engage in activities determined to be appropriate for the said community. However, there are always cases in which people question the legitimacy of the authority, to some extent even to the extent of insubordination against their leaders. Such cases are especially common in organizational settings and are often used as a sign of resistance to newly installed leaders. However, it is worth noting that the Bible offers a clear message that it is always important for one to obey authority as it is God’s way of maintaining order within the human society.

Firstly, the Biblical view of authority likens submission to the leaders in charge of such authority to obedience to God (1 Peter 2: 13, New International Version). According to this Biblical teaching, authority varies from the governance within a particular geographical location to other sources of authority instituted upon men. People often tend to have greater respect for political laws, but limited obedience to laws set within other formal institutions. For instance, it would be possible to find employees reporting to work about thirty minutes late, simply because the rule is not enforced enough to prompt appropriate conduct. Ultimately, such is an incidence of insubordination, which the Biblical view of authority would condone.

Certain situations may lead people to question authority, and at times act in direct confrontation to the same. Organizational settings often face conflicts, which at times pit the employees against the leaders (Currie, Gormley, Roche, & Teague, 2017). In some cases, the employees stand their ground, question the leader's decisions in public, and even to some extent seek to proof some level of incompetence in their leaders, as a way of discrediting their authority. Such actions would be inappropriate from a Biblical perspective and present an opportunity for God to take action against the individuals in question. For instance, following King Saul’s attempt to murder David using a spear, David objected to suggestions made to kill the King, stating that such authority came from God and a curse would befall anyone who tried to go against the authority (1 Samuel, 26: 11, New International Version). Ultimately, anyone who tries to go against authority may experience challenges within the said society, which explains why some employees often end up losing their jobs and receiving no positive recommendations from the employers.

References

Currie, D., Gormley, T., Roche, B., & Teague, P. (2017). The management of workplace conflict: Contrasting pathways in the HRM literature. *International Journal of Management Reviews*, *19*(4), 492-509.