This is a close-to-comprehensive listing of verses (CSB) where a man commands, directs, instructs, and/or charges with some degree of authority. I’ve excluded from this list any commands from the Lord.

**Commanding**

Acts 17:15: Those who escorted Paul brought him as far as Athens, and after receiving **instructions** for Silas and Timothy to come to him as quickly as possible, they departed. [*entole*]

1 Corinthians 7:10: To the married I give this **command**—not I, but the Lord—a wife is not to leave her husband. [*parangello*]

1 Corinthians 7:17: Let each one live his life in the situation the Lord assigned when God called him. This is what I **command** in all the churches. *[diatasso]*

1 Corinthians 11:17: Now in giving this **instruction** I do not praise you, since you come together not for the better but for the worse. [*parangello*]

1 Corinthians 11:34: If anyone is hungry, he should eat at home, so that when you gather together you will not come under judgment. I will give **instructions** about the other matters whenever I come. *[diatasso]*

1 Corinthians 16:1: Now about the collection for the saints: Do the same as I **instructed** the Galatian churches. *[diatasso]*

Colossians 4:10: Aristarchus, my fellow prisoner, sends you greetings, as does Mark, Barnabas’s cousin (concerning whom you have received **instructions**: if he comes to you, welcome him), [*entole*]

1 Thessalonians 4:11: to seek to lead a quiet life, to mind your own business, and to work with your own hands, as we **command**ed you, [*parangello*]

2 Thessalonians 3:4: We have confidence in the Lord about you, that you are doing and will continue to do what we **command**. [*parangello*]

2 Thessalonians 3:6: Now we **command** you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to keep away from every brother or sister who is idle and does not live according to the tradition received from us. [*parangello*]

2 Thessalonians 3:10: In fact, when we were with you, this is what we **command**ed you: “If anyone isn’t willing to work, he should not eat.” [*parangello*]

2 Thessalonians 3:12: Now we **command** and exhort such people by the Lord Jesus Christ to work quietly and provide for themselves. [*parangello*]

1 Timothy 1:3: As I urged you when I went to Macedonia, remain in Ephesus so that you may **instruct** certain people not to teach false doctrine [*parangello*]

1 Timothy 4:11: **Command** and teach these things. [*parangello*]

1 Timothy 5:7: **Command** this also, so that they will be above reproach. [*parangello*]

1 Timothy 6:13: In the presence of God, who gives life to all, and of Christ Jesus, who gave a good confession before Pontius Pilate, I **charge** you [*parangello*]

1 Timothy 6:17: **Instruct** those who are rich in the present age not to be arrogant or to set their hope on the uncertainty of wealth, but on God, who richly provides us with all things to enjoy. [*parangello*]

Titus 1:5: The reason I left you in Crete was to set right what was left undone and, as I **directed** you, to appoint elders in every town. *[diatasso]*

Titus 2:15: Proclaim these things; encourage and rebuke with all **authority**. Let no one disregard you. [*epitage*]

1 John 2:8: Yet I am writing you a new **command**, which is true in him and in you, because the darkness is passing away and the true light is already shining. [*entole*]

**Not commanding**

1 Corinthians 7:6: I say this as a concession, not as a **command**. [*epitage*]

2 Corinthians 8:8: I am not saying this as a **command**. Rather, by means of the diligence of others, I am testing the genuineness of your love. [*epitage*]

Philemon 1:8: For this reason, although I have great boldness in Christ to **command** you to do what is right, [*epitasso*]

2 John 1:5: So now I ask you, dear lady—not as if I were writing you a new **command**, but one we have had from the beginning—that we love one another. [*entole*]

1 John 2:7: Dear friends, I am not writing you a new **command** but an old **command** that you have had from the beginning. The old **command** is the word you have heard. [*entole*]

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As the emissaries of Christ commissioned to provide the foundation for the church, the apostles were granted special authority to speak for Jesus to the believing community ([Matt. 10:40](https://www.esv.org/verses/Matt.%2010%3A40/); [John 17:20–21](https://www.esv.org/verses/John%2017%3A20%E2%80%9321/); [Acts 2:42](https://www.esv.org/verses/Acts%202%3A42/); [Eph. 2:20](https://www.esv.org/verses/Eph.%202%3A20/); [1 Thess. 2:6](https://www.esv.org/verses/1%20Thess.%202%3A6/)). Practically speaking, they had the right to command Christians to act in certain ways, and we often see Paul, Peter, and the other apostles issuing such commands in their writings.

We have no writings that have been passed down to us in the Christian community today that come directly from the pen of Jesus. The inscripturating of the teaching of our Lord was entrusted to the Apostles. And so, when we want to place Jesus against Paul or Paul against Jesus, what we’re really doing in essence is trying to pit Paul against Luke, or Paul against Mark, or Paul against Matthew. Because all that we know of the teaching of Jesus comes to us through the Gospel writers. And it’s because of their delegated authority that we trust that we have knowledge of the actual teaching of Jesus Christ.

And it still holds true today that if we reject the authority of the Apostles, we reject the authority of Christ. And if we reject the authority of Christ, we reject the authority of God Himself.