



Spiritual Authority Part 3

In *Spiritual Authority Part 2* I taught that operating in the authority of Christ empowers us to take spiritual initiative to act and use the power of Christ. As believers in Christ, we have the riches of the glory of His inheritance at our disposition and the exceeding greatness of His power toward us. We will experience these according to how much we put to work His mighty power through our spiritual authority. In other words, if we don't put to work the power of God, we won't see His mighty hand in action.

Acts 14:3

“Therefore they stayed there a long time, speaking boldly in the Lord, who was bearing witness to the word of His grace, granting signs and wonders to be done by their hands.”

This is the approach the early Church had. They understood the gospel of grace, and knew they had the power of the Holy Spirit at their disposition. They revolutionized the world then with the gospel in a very short time frame. They saw results.

Notice, God granted signs and wonders to be done “by their [apostles] hands”. The apostles didn't beg asking God to heal, deliver, and perform signs and wonders. They performed it. They took the initiative and made God's will come to pass. With great grace comes great power and great responsibility. This is definitely not the approach the latter Church (today's believer in Christ) has and it's definitely not the results we see today, generally.

1 Thessalonians 1:5

“For our gospel did not come to you in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Spirit and in much assurance, as you know what kind of men we were among you for your sake.”

As believers in Christ we're called to preach the gospel of grace not just with words but with demonstration in power and in the Holy Spirit. This means we have power in the inside of us ready to be used via the Holy Spirit. We ought to be different than the followers of false religions who come knocking at our doors. What we have is not just doctrine on paper. We have a resurrected Christ and the power of the Holy Spirit to confirm that the life of the resurrected Christ flows within us. It is our responsibility to proclaim and demonstrate. Exercising the power of God with signs, miracles, and the supernatural should be the norm.

This is where the majority of believers in Christ become helpless, impotent, and ineffective.

Unfortunately, many believers in Christ within our churches, even those who are leaders and consider themselves mature, are so powerless, living at the mercy of whatever comes their way in life. Their outlook of the Christian life is to cope and beg instead of having the overcoming spirit of the faith of Christ.

Their approach to most of life's woes is to beg God, "Please heal me. Please prosper me. Please save this person. Please move." It's definitely appropriate to petition God, but God won't do what He provided via the finished work and commanded us to do.

-What do you mean?

Know that God via the finished work of Christ has released all the power to heal, deliver, prosper, and save everyone on earth. The problem is we're not taking responsibility to heal sickness, resist the devil, increase our finances, preach the gospel of grace, and etc. Instead, we're begging God to do it. As believers in Christ it's vital to learn to use our faith to speak to problems and command things to change. We should be commanders instead of beggars, spiritually proactive and seekers instead of passive and praying for God to do it.

For example, God never told us to pray for healing. He commanded us to heal the sick. That's a big difference. The reason why the supernatural is so scarce in our churches is because the Church as a whole doesn't preach the grace of Christ and/or doesn't understand that we have been equipped with the authority and power of Christ. Instead, they have created all types of doctrines of excuse of why God doesn't do the things He did as with the early Church. Meanwhile Satan is laughing at us of how powerless and ineffective we are while having the Most High God living inside of us.

A great man of God who saw hundreds of healing miracles, said the following:

"Do you know what prayer is? It is not begging God for this and that. The first thing we have to do is to get you beggars to quit begging until a little faith moves in your souls." -
John G. Lake

God said something similar to Moses right before the crossing of the Red Sea. When Moses was caught between a rock and a hard place, he began begging God to do something. God responded and said "Why do you cry out to Me? Raise your staff and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it." (Ex. 14:15-16) Moses had the power of God in his hand, yet he failed to use it.

Unlike Moses, the power of God now resides within us permanently as believers in Christ. It's time to activate the power of the Holy Spirit and take up the authority of Christ.

By: Joyner Briceño