



Spiritual Authority Part 2

In *Spiritual Authority Part 1* I taught that Christ has not only restored our human authority and power that was initially given to Adam and Eve, but, at Christ's resurrection, He has given us authority and power over Death and Hades. This doesn't mean we will never experience physical death. We all will eventually if the Lord tarries, but we can live a long, healthy, fulfilled, and prosperous life as much as we can while we're in this world. Also, Christ has given us authority and power over heaven because He was crowned with glory and honor after His resurrection in heaven. The Kingdom of God abides within us with Christ at the throne. He's given us the right to use the Kingdom of Heaven. The term *Kingdom of Heaven* is the terminology used to describe all of God's resources. This gives us great responsibility.

Matthew 16:19

“And I will give you the keys of the Kingdom of Heaven. Whatever you forbid on earth will be forbidden in heaven, and whatever you permit on earth will be permitted in heaven.”

If a believer in Christ is not operating in Christ's authority and power, it's not God who isn't providing, answering prayers or moving – it's us who are not using His authority and power.

Consider this scenario. We agree with the electric company to generate power to our house. Once there is power running through our house, depending on what our need is, all we have to do is switch the light on or turn the TV on. But let's say we don't understand that we have authority over the electricity generated to our house and the power to turn on any electronic. We start calling the electric company to turn on the light on in our bathroom. The electric company won't do what is now under our responsibility.

Many believers in Christ don't understand this and eke their way through life, begging God to do something and, ultimately, blaming Him for not doing something, when He has given us the authority and power to act. God isn't going to do what has been placed under our authority. We're waiting on God to move when God is waiting on us to move. Without us, God will not.

For example, God said we should resist the devil. He's not going to resist the devil for us. God said we should go and heal the sick. He's not going to heal for us. God said we have the power to obtain wealth. He's not going to get wealth for us. God said we are the revival. He's not going to

send revival for us. This passive mindset is one of the main reasons why many believers in Christ aren't seeing God's promises come to pass in their life.

Operating in the authority of Christ empowers us to take spiritual initiative. It gives us the power to rebuke (or accept) negative things coming at us. We can never stop all negative things coming at us, but we can limit and stop the things that are coming at us from prospering against us. I'm not saying life will be peaches and cream. That's not realistic. But we can have a quality of life experiencing the goodness and promises of God to reign in life.

For example, anything that comes into our life that is the work of the enemy to steal, kill, and destroy, whether it be a trial, test, or temptation, if it's not a blessing or a promise of God, then it has no right in our life. We need to use our authority and power by audibly rejecting those things. The opposite is also true. Operating in the authority of Christ gives us the power to audibly call upon the blessings of God. This is unheard of in today's Christianity, but it's absolutely true.

Matthew 11:12

From the time of John the Baptist until now, violent people have been trying to take over the kingdom of heaven by force.

Normally when we think of using authority and power, immediately we think of force. Religion tries to rule over people, speak loud prayers, use rituals, do holy works, and confuse human strength with faith to apply force all in the name of authority and power to get God's resources. This is nothing but religious exhibition and mysticism. In the context, Jesus was talking about the Pharisees who tried to take the Kingdom of Heaven by force. The good news is the Kingdom of God doesn't operate by force but by revelation through the Holy Spirit.

The keys to using the authority and power of Christ is first submitting to His authority and the power of the Holy Spirit. We need to recognize none of this is a product of our fierce force, big faith, or holy performance. Then we need to establish our self worth in the finished work of Christ and find our identity in the risen Christ. How? By believing the gospel of grace which reveals righteousness by faith in Christ, not works. The more we gain revelation of all aspects of being the righteousness of God in Christ the more we will walk in the authority and power of Christ because everything emerges from this truth. Finally, we need to translate our inner conviction into audible words. Speaking audibly in a low voice out of conviction is more powerful than any empty, loud religious prayer can ever accomplish in the Kingdom of God. The volume of the voice is not what's important but the conviction behind it is.

Using the authority and power of Christ doesn't lead us to act independent of Jesus and His finished work. By no means am I saying that we are like Christ as deity. We all know there is one God, and we're not Him. Remember, it's not our authority and power in the first place. Using the authority and power of Christ does the opposite. We get to operate in it because we know who we are and what we have in Christ Jesus. Amen.

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