



Authority of the Believer
Lesson 2: We Possess Authority

1. Review

Jesus was fully God but he was also fully man. He was human and had limitations that go along with his humanity. This is why Jesus needed to pray.

Jesus did not possess more divine power than is available to us today. What is the difference?

Jesus knew what belonged to Him and _____

Many Christians do not know their authority and therefore do not use it. Jesus has delegated his authority to us. It is not enough that he has delegated authority to us, we must know what belongs to us.

Luke 10:19

We have authority to stand our ground against the devil.

Definition of AUTHORITY: _____

Ephesians 1:16-20

The mightiest working of God's power was when the Holy Spirit raised Jesus from the dead.

Romans 8:11

Ephesians 1:21-23

All of the powers of Satan tried to defeat Jesus, but He rose from the dead.

He was made alive. He ascended into heaven and He is seated at the right hand of the Father – a place of authority.

When Christ was made alive, we were too!

When He was raised, I was raised.

This is already done. It is completed in the eyes of God.

This is the problem – many Christians do not realize they operate from a position of authority.

2. We have authority.

Ephesians 6:2

When reading this verse we must not forget that we are seated far above all of these demon spirits.

We have authority over the devil. He should not be dominating us. We are supposed to be dominating him.

A lot of problems persist in our lives because we are not doing anything about them. We want Jesus to do something about them.

But He has given authority to us. We have to do something about them.

Romans 5:17

We reign!

The Amplified Bible says - *reign as kings in life*

When a king gives an order, he expects that it will be followed. That is authority! That is how we are supposed to live.

3. Four places in the Bible that prove we possess the authority

There is no place in the New Testament letters where we are told to pray to the Father, or to Jesus, in order to rebuke the devil.

To do this is a waste of time.

The least member in the Body of Christ has just as much authority over the devil as anybody else.

If we, as believers, don't do anything about the devil, nothing will ever get done.

- **Matthew 28**

Matthew 28:18

If we stop reading there we would say – “Jesus has the authority.”

However, Jesus immediately delegated that authority to the church. What is the next word?

Matthew 28:19 – GO

He is the Head. We are the Body.

The authority must be activated _____

The only authority Jesus has on this earth is through His Body.

- **Mark 16**

Mark 16:15-18

What is the first sign that follows any believer? – _____

What does that mean? – Believers have authority over the devil.

- **James 4**

James 4:7

James did not say, “Pray to God so that He might resist the devil for you.”

James said, “You resist the devil.”

You would have to have authority in order to do that.

No Christian is supposed to get anybody else to do something about the devil for them.

Definition of FLEE: _____

When you are a baby Christian, God will allow others to help you.

But there will come a time in your life where you will have to exercise authority on your own.

- **Ephesians 4**

Ephesians 4:27

In order not to give him any place, you have to have authority over him.

Ephesians 4:27 – Amplified Bible

Leave no [such] room or foothold for the devil [give no opportunity to him].

If you give place to the devil, there is nothing that Jesus can do because you have the authority.

If the devil has any place in your life, remember this: _____

There is nothing Jesus can do about that.

4. What happens if things don't change immediately after you have taken authority?

Many people get discouraged. They begin speaking unbelief. Then they defeat themselves.

Unconsciously, they give the devil dominion over them.

Sometimes things change immediately in our situation. But if they do not _____

If we spoke with authority, we know it has to be done.

So what do you do?

James 4:7

He will flee from you.

Definition of RESIST: _____

So how do you practically do that?

2 Corinthians 5:7

It should not matter what things look like. You reign as a king! You have given an order with authority.

1 Peter 5:9

That is how you resist him! Don't change what you say because of what you see.

Keep declaring the Word of God.

Definition of STEADFAST: _____

1 Peter 5:9 – American Standard Version

whom withstand steadfast in YOUR faith . . .

5. The devil has been stripped of his power.

Colossians 2:9-15

We died with Christ – every sin written against us was nailed to the cross!

Death (spiritual) was the penalty of our sin – but it has been removed.

We _____ with Christ. We were _____ with Christ. We were _____ with Him.

Colossians 2:15

The devil has been stripped of his power and all authority was given to Jesus.

We know that Jesus is the supreme head with all authority. But we don't realize that the head is dependent on the body.

We are the body and we are to carry out His plans (the head) in the earth.

We are called to cooperate with the Lord by faith.

The way you cooperate is _____

The Lord is actually hindered in His plans that He wants to carry out in the church and in our lives because His Body does not understand their place of authority – seated with Jesus at the right hand of the Father.

6. We are in a fight.

Ephesians 6:11

Many Christians think after they get saved, they can just sit back and relax.

There would be no need for armor unless we had to fight in battles.

What do you have to do? – _____

The devil resists you entering his domain.

Why? Because he is exercising the authority of the powers of the air. He does not want interference. He will intensify all of his efforts against you.

He wants you to throw up your hands and say, “It won’t work for me.”

If attacks against you spirit are successfully resisted – assaults will come at your mind and attacks against your body. And then your family, circumstances, finances, etc.

Ephesians 6:10-17

Every piece of this armor represents certain attitudes that a believer must maintain.

Wearing this armor will cause you to be _____
your spiritual authority.

What do you do after you have all of the armor?

Ephesians 6:18

With the armor on, you can now enter the _____

You command in authority.

Then you have to walk it out in authority – so you don’t lose what you have.

7. What are you waiting for? You can begin now.

You have authority over the enemy! You have authority over demon spirits.

For example – You can take authority over fear.

2 Timothy 1:7

Notice that fear is a spirit.

If fear comes against you, you simply say, “Fear – I resist you in the name of Jesus.”

If you resist fear, it will flee from you. Just like you resist the devil and he flees from you.

Resisting is fighting back. (Resisting arrest)

We are supposed to resist anything that is from the devil.

Too many people sit and wait for Jesus to do something.

Jesus has already done something about it and he has given us the authority.

The authority belongs to you. Therefore, _____

Matthew 18:18

New Century Version

I tell you the truth, the things you don't allow on earth will be the things God does not allow . . .

Twentieth Century Translation

I tell you, all that you forbid on earth will be held in heaven to be forbidden . . .

God's Word Translation

I can guarantee this truth: Whatever you imprison, God will imprison . . .

It is time for you to refuse some things. It is time for you to prohibit some things.

It is up to you. _____

It is time for you to take some things and say, "Enough is enough!" Imprison some things!

It is time for you to forbid what is happening to you.

8. Stop trying to get what you already have.

Most Christians are trying to get what they already have.

They are trying to get delivered when they _____

Colossians 1:13

If I have been delivered from darkness (Satan, his kingdom) then Satan has no power or authority over me.

The church must realize the authority that we walk in and change the way we pray.