

THE CHRISTIAN AUTHORITY AND COMMISSION

It is important that every believer seeking to set the captives free know their commission and authority in Christ.

As Christians, if we do not understand the authority that was freely appropriated by Christ, the results we desire and need can be lost due to a lack of knowledge (Hosea 4:6). This lack of knowledge will keep us from obtaining healing, deliverance, and restoration.

1. First we must understand our commission as Christians.

“Go and make disciples of all nations. Baptizing them in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.”
(Matthew 28:19)

Disciples- students

And as disciples, what are we commissioned to do? What does it mean to “make disciples?”

“And he called his twelve disciples together and began sending them out two by two, giving them **authority** to cast out evil spirits.”
(Mark 6:7)

Let’s delve further in order to understand what Jesus meant by “authority” and how it has been given to Christians.

KNOWING YOUR SPIRITUAL AUTHORITY

“Let us make man in our image and likeness. They **will rule or reign (have authority)** over the fish in the sea, the birds in the sky, the livestock, all the wild animals on the earth, and the small animals that scurry along the ground.” **(Genesis 1:26)**

to rule

יָרַדוּ (wə-yir-dū)

Strong's Hebrew 7287: 1) to rule, have dominion, dominate, tread down 1a) (Qal) to have dominion, rule, subjugate 1b) (Hiphil) to cause to dominate 2) to scrape out 2a) (Qal) to scrape, scrape out

Authority, Lost and Restored

Authority is ours through Jesus Christ.

- God gave Adam authority, dominion over all the earth. **(Genesis 1:26)**

Adam surrendered authority to Satan when he sinned.

- When Adam sinned, he surrendered the authority he had been given to “rule over the earth” to the devil. Satan then become the “ruler of this world” **(Genesis 1:28, (Luke 4:6)**
- Satan was given authority over this world and everything in it.

Satan offered the authority to Jesus if Jesus would worship him.
Satan had authority until Jesus died on the cross.
(Luke 4:5-6)

When Christ, the last Adam, offered himself up for our sins, He restored and redeemed man to his former position of authority over Satan in this world.

(1 Corinthians 15:45, Hebrews 7:27)

- Jesus was given all power and authority and a Name above every name.
(Col. 2:15, Heb. 2:14, Rev. 1:18, Matt 28:18, Phil 2:9)
- What Adam surrendered, Jesus regained and restored.
Jesus rendered the power of Satan null and void.
***The position of Satan changed from pre-resurrection, “ruler of this world”
Kosmos (John 12:31, 14:30) to “god of this age.” (2 Cor. 4:4)***

o Believers are identified with Jesus in His resurrection and exaltation.

Rom 6, Eph 2, Gal 2:20, Col 2:12, 2 Tim 2:11

o Power and authority are given to the believer who is apart of His body, the Church.
(Matt 18:18, Matt 28:18, Luke 10:19, Eph. 1:22, James 4:7, Acts 16:16-18, Acts 5:12-16, Acts 19:12, Heb. 7:26)

■ ***IMPORTANT TO NOTE.** . . We have been placed positionally in Christ by the Holy Spirit, seated with Jesus in “heavenly places.” (Eph. 2:6) Yet only thorough understanding our authority and learning to stand in it, will we be able to assume our rightful place of authority and power as we victoriously wrestle against spiritual beings. Viewing Satan’s position from the pre-resurrection perspective of “ruler of this world” to the post-resurrection perspective, “god of this age,” does not invalidate Satan’s influence or any scriptural passages. We are able to harmonize pre-resurrection scriptures and post-resurrection scriptures by understanding that before Calvary, Satan was a powerful foe to be defeated and after Calvary, he has been rendered powerless. Viewing his present position and power outside of Calvary would erroneously reinstate him to the position lost through the death and resurrection of Jesus.

UNDERSTANDING AND WALKING IN AUTHORITY

We need to understand that the victory has been won for us by Christ and KNOW who we are in Christ.

“He forgave us all our sins, having canceled the charge of our legal indebtedness, which stood against us and condemned us; he has taken it away, nailing it to the cross. Having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross.”

(Colossians 2:14-15)

- The battle IS WON
- Satan IS DEFEATED
- The victory is ours through JESUS

Possessing the Land

When Joshua and the children of Israel were given the Promised Land by God, they had to drive out all the inhabitants that remained before possessing their inheritance.

GOD GAVE THEM THE AUTHORITY TO TAKE THE LAND, BUT GOD DID NOT REMOVE THEM. THEY HAD TO REMOVE THEM ONE BATTLE AT A TIME.

JESUS told the disciples to go out and preach and teach the Kingdom of Heaven, showing that He had come by **HEALING THE SICK, RAISING THE DEAD, AND CASTING OUT DEMONS.**

This meant kicking out the inhabitants of the current kingdom of darkness.

What is your ultimate goal by executing your authority in Christ over the kingdom of darkness?

The Bible is clear, what you permit, will be permitted. What you won't permit, God won't permit. (Matt. 16:18)

1. Recognize the lies of the enemy. Put the truth where there is a lie.
2. Recognize and eliminate sinful patterns and/or behaviors
3. Heal trauma, physical and/or emotional
4. Recognize and eliminate any occult involvement
5. Identify active curses based on history of the captive
6. Identify generational curses coming through the family bloodlines.

Remove the **“ground or standing”** or **“legal right”** of the demonic bondage through:

1. Recognition of sin or habitual sin
This includes but is not limited to participation with others who have sinned. Ex. Abortion or paying for one, murder or an accessory to murder, stealing or an accessory too theft.
2. Confession of sin
3. Repentance
4. Asking forgiveness or granting forgiveness to others

For us to walk in spiritual authority given to us as a free gift by Jesus, we need to KNOW who we are in Christ and the knowledge of our authority must be more than facts, it must be experiential. Most of the church know factual information but not the experiential part that is crucial to the life of the believer.