

A Believer's Authority

Putting it All Together

Today we will wrap up the series, *A Believer's Authority*, by reviewing what we have learned and then illustrating how to walk it out in real time (Listen to the whole series)

I. **Slide-What is authority?**

The power to control or demand obedience from others; someone with official responsibility for a particular area of activity; official permission or the legal right to do something; the power to enforce rules.

Slide-Anything that God says is true. He makes the rules. His truths are laws. His promises are laws. He has spoken and established laws that govern the natural and spiritual order of things. These are laws that all creation must submit to, things seen and unseen, including devils and angels.

Let's first review some of the key scriptures that speak of a Believer's Authority.

Mark 16: 14-18 ¹⁴ *Later He appeared to the eleven as they sat at the table; and He rebuked their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they did not believe those who had seen Him after He had risen.* ¹⁵ *And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature.* ¹⁶ *He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned.* ¹⁷ *And these signs will follow those who ^[d]believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues;* ¹⁸ *they ^[e]will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover."*

Luke 9:1-2 *When Jesus had called the Twelve together, he gave them power and authority to drive out all demons and to cure diseases, 2 and he sent them out to proclaim the kingdom of God and to heal the sick.*

Acts 1:8 *"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."* –

John 14:12-14, *Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father. 13 And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. 14 You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it.*

Mathew 10:7 to his disciples (you and I)

⁷ *And as you go, preach, saying, 'The kingdom of heaven is at hand.'*

⁸ **(Then demonstrate it)** *Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out demons. Freely you have received, freely give.*

Luke 10:19

"Behold, I have given you authority to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall hurt you."

Ephesians 2:6 *"For he raised us from the dead along with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms because we are united with Christ Jesus."*

So, as you can see, we have more authority than we generally believe. We are Christ's witnesses, indwelt by the Holy Spirit, ambassadors of Jesus Christ and God the Father. We are his army of power-wielding super-soldiers, commissioned to conquer the forces of hell, tear down enemy strong holds, and set the captives free in the name of Jesus.

We need to get these verses memorized, and then speak them to ourselves, until our subconscious gets the message and believes it.

- II. **The next week we spoke about the power of our words. Recall that We are made in the image of God.** When God spoke, he brought things into being. We, too, being made in his image, have creative power in our

words to be used **either for good or evil**. We may not take them seriously, but our subconscious is listening and so is the devil, and so is God. Our words can align us with God's truth or Satan's lies. Further, if we speak things enough, we will begin to believe it.

a. Proverbs 18:21

Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruit.

b. Mark 11:23-24 *"Whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith. Therefore, I tell you, whatever you ask in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours."*

We must speak to the mountain! What is your mountain? **Speak to it.**

"Cancer" I rebuke you. "Fear" be gone. "Worry," be gone. "Devil" be gone. "Sore throat," be gone. "Back pain," be gone.

Some people get nervous about claiming such power as our own. But remember that Jesus gave it to us, and he expects us to use it for his glory.

---Peter and John going into the temple healed the lame man **Acts 3:1-7**

*Now Peter and John went up together to the temple at the hour of prayer, the ninth hour. ² And a certain man lame from his mother's womb was carried, whom they laid daily at the gate of the temple which is called Beautiful, to ^[a]ask alms from those who entered the temple; ³ who, seeing Peter and John about to go into the temple, asked for alms. ⁴ And fixing his eyes on him, with John, Peter said, "Look at us." ⁵ So he gave them his attention, expecting to receive something from them. ⁶ Then Peter said, "Silver and gold I do not have, but **what I do have I give you: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk.**" **7** (Peter spoke to the problem. The guy couldn't walk. So, he said rise up and walk) And he took him by the right hand and lifted him up (act of faith following belief), and immediately his feet and ankle bones received strength.*

III. Following that topic, we took a couple weeks to speak about conditional authority. There are Bible verses that have conditions attached to them which we must meet for them to be fulfilled as God promises.

i.e. 2 Chron. 7:14 If my people who are called by my name...Psalm 91 he who dwells in the secret place of the most high, shall...

In addition to God's conditional promises, there are also conditions connected to successfully using our spiritual authority in real time and in real situations.

Three such conditions are: **Forgiving others, walking in righteousness, and having belief leading to faith.** Remember that we can have belief but not faith. However, faith requires belief. Faith is belief in action (Parachute example)

Failing to forgive, living unrighteously, and having unbelief can limit the effectiveness of our power and God's power flowing through us..

IV. Putting it all together: The walk-out (4 points of battle-B.W.J.D.)

When we are in a battle with the devil, or sickness, or any demonic force, situation, or stronghold we are to use our **belief and faith** to stand our ground and fight. We are to use God's Word as our sword and instrument of battle, and Jesus' name as our authorization. Then we are to declare victory and thank The Father.

1. **B.elieve** in your God-given authority. Stand up in faith.
 - a. Peter and John at the temple (**Acts 3:1-7**)
2. **W.ord** (Recall what scripture is needed, then Speak it)- **Matt. 4:1-11**
3. **J.esus** name (Establish dominion) **Philippians 2:9-11**
4. **D.eclare** victory (Thanks) **1 Cor. 15:57**

Examples:

A. You're sleeping one night, and fear comes on you. Perhaps it's a tangible darkness. Something evil has crept into your room. What do you do?

You sense that it is fear...or at least you are scared.

1. **Believe:** Remember your authority (belief and Faith)
2. **Word:** What does God word say? Speak it.
 - a. *Greater is he that is in me...1 John4:4*
 - b. *Perfect love casts out fear. "I am loved perfectly." 1 John 4:18*
 - c. **Luke 10:19** ¹⁹ *Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you.*
3. **Jesus' name** (establish dominion): "Spirit of fear, you can't hurt or touch me according to God's law. Therefore, **in the name of Jesus**, I command you leave me alone. Be gone."
4. **Declare victory** and thank the Father.

B. You get some news that triggers an old memory producing anxiety. You start to have a panic attack. What do you do?

1. **Belief and faith:** (Remember your authority)
2. **Word:** What does God's word say about anxiety? Speak it.
 - a. **Philippians 4:6-7** ⁶ *Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; ⁷ and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.*
 - b. **Isaiah 26:3** : *You will keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on You, because he trusts in You.*
 - c. **Isaiah 41:10** *So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.*
3. **Jesus' Name:** Establish dominion, "Anxiety or *panic*, in the name of Jesus, I take authority over you. I am stayed in perfect peace because my mind is fixed on God. You have no power over me. I cast you out. Be gone.

4. Declare victory and thank the Father

C. You wake up with a sore throat. The devil immediately says, “you’re going to get sick.” What do you do?

D. Your boss says there’s going to be lay-offs coming. The voice inside your head immediately says, “it’s going to be you. How will you and or your family survive?”

E. The doctor says you’ve got something permanent or terminal? What do you do?

F. For no apparent reason you’re feeling down, emotionally oppressed, discouraged, or in dread. What do you do?

Conclusion; Begin to practice using authority. You may not move mountains at first, but keep going. You may not put fear in devils, but keep going. You may not see your healing spring forth, but keep going. The voices of doubt may still be shouting loud in your ear, ignore them and lean on what God says is true. Get his word and promises planted deep inside your minds and hearts. Step out in faith under the umbrella of belief. Take God at his Word and lean on the Rock that is Jesus Christ. Even if things don’t turn out like we are wanting in any given situation, PRAISE God in all things.