



Understanding Our Authority as Chosen Ones! – Pt. 2

Sunday Sermon – 3/3/2024

Bishop Steven A. Norman, Pastor

Matthew 18:18-20 "Assuredly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. 19 "Again I say to you that if two of you agree on earth concerning anything that they ask, it will be done for them by My Father in heaven. 20 For where two or three are gathered together in My name, I am there in the midst of them."

2024 is the year of the Open Door.

Matthew 18:18-20 "Assuredly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven."

This indicates to us that Heaven is the source of whatever we need or the action we need or desire to take place here on earth.

James records in **James 5:17**, Elijah the prophet shows us an example of how to bind and lose through prayer. **James 5:17-18** **Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed earnestly that it would not rain, and it did not rain on the land for three years and six months. 18 He prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth produced its fruit.**

James is saying if Elijah can do it by faith as a human being, we can also.

Jesus is putting the responsibility on us, (His chosen ones), to make it happen.

The system is already in place, waiting for our response.

What we do on the earth activates the spiritual resources in heaven for the manifestation to occur where needed.

We have the authority! **Luke 10:19** **Behold, I give you the authority (Exousia) to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power (dunamis) of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you.**

Authority over all natural and supernatural powers that are hostile to God's Kingdom.

We need to be aware that we have this authority regularly, daily, so we can fight off fear-based emotions and make God-willed decisions.

We can get heavenly beings and resources that are already assigned, to create what is needed for us and on behalf of others by speaking the Truth (Word of God) by Faith.

2 Kings 6:14-18 **Therefore he sent horses and chariots and a great army there, and they came by night and surrounded the city. 15 And when the servant of the man of God arose early and went out, there was an army, surrounding the city with horses and chariots. And his servant said to him, "Alas, my master!**



What shall we do?" 16 So he answered, "Do not fear, for those who are with us are more than those who are with them." 17 And Elisha prayed, and said, "Lord, I pray, open his eyes that he may see." Then the Lord opened the eyes of the young man, and he saw. And behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha. 18 So when the Syrians came down to him, Elisha prayed to the Lord, and said, "Strike this people, I pray, with blindness." And He struck them with blindness according to the word of Elisha.

Notice the forces of heaven moved at Elisha's request.

If Elisha's words can create their victory, then our words can also create ours.

Spiritual warfare is a war of words and thoughts that forms opinions and ideologies that create our reality.

Proverbs 23:7 For as he thinks in his heart, so is he. *The enemy wants to influence us to use our words and thoughts to do what he wants and act like we belong to him.*

Matthew 18:19: "Again I say to you that if two of you agree on earth concerning anything that they ask, it will be done for them by My Father in heaven. 20 For where two or three are gathered together in My name, I am there in the midst of them."

The more we learn to work in unison, the greater the influence of authority and power we can walk in.

One can put a thousand to flight, but two ten thousand.

Let's see Jesus's teaching on how to use our authority and faith.

Mark 11:12-24: Now the next day, when they had come out from Bethany, He was hungry. 13 And seeing from afar a fig tree having leaves, He went to see if perhaps He would find something on it. When He came to it, He found nothing but leaves, for it was not the season for figs. 14 In response Jesus said to it, (The Tree) "Let no one eat fruit from you ever again." And His disciples heard it...

This tree is false advertising because it has leaves but no figs. Ordinarily, this is not the case with these fig trees, which generally do not have leaves without also having figs.

"For it was not the season for figs": The problem is that it had leaves but didn't have figs. The leaves said, "There are figs here," but the figs weren't there. The message of the fig tree was deceitful!

...20 Now in the morning, as they passed by, they saw the fig tree dried up from the roots. They saw the manifestation of what had occurred by the Word Jesus spoke.

21 And Peter, remembering, said to Him, "Rabbi, look! The fig tree which You cursed has withered away."

Notice Peter remembered that Jesus spoke to the fig tree. Peter recognized the power of the spoken word by faith.