

Understanding Our Authority as Chosen Ones! Pt. 5

Sunday Sermon – 4/7/2024

Bishop Steven A. Norman, Pastor

Matthew 16:15-19 He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" 16 Simon Peter answered and said, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." 17 Jesus answered and said to him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah, for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father who is in heaven. 18 And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it. 19 And I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven."

2024 is the Year of the Open Door:

Many doors of opportunity are opening this season for increase, and utilizing our authority is key to taking advantage of these opportunities.

We are entering a time when we must walk boldly in our God-given Authority and Power.

We can operate our authority legally under the Headship of Jesus Christ where all the forces and resources of Heaven are at our disposal.

The heavenly resources we have privity to contain the "Power of His Might", which gives us the ability to shut down all unauthorized activity.

We must be confident in our authority and use the power of God's might by faith to overcome the enemy's wiles/schemes.

There are only two main sources of authority: the authority of men and the authority of God.

Psalms 115:16 The heaven, even the heavens, are the Lord's; But the earth He has given to the children of men.

God governs the heavens (the unseen realm), and humanity is designed to govern and control the earth (the seen realm).

God is still the owner of the Heavens and the earth, not Mankind.

Psalms 24:1 The earth is the Lord's, and all its fullness, The world and those who dwell therein.

When humanity sinned in the garden, the authority to govern the earth was stolen by satan.

Satan told Eve that she wouldn't die, which was a lie, but what he didn't tell her was just as destructive; by obeying him, their position and authority were shifted from them to him.

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Once satan had the position and authority to govern, he established another way of life. A way of deception that leads to darkness and evil. A way that opposes what God had originally designed.

But I thank God that Jesus Christ came, and He took back all the authority that satan had stolen from mankind and made it available to us where it belongs.

But satan's authority and power can't compare to the miraculous thing that we can do under the authority and power of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Jesus' authority trumps all other authority.

Matthew 28:18 And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. After his resurrection, Jesus gained authority over the Heavens, (the unseen realm), and on the earth, (the seen realm)!

When we walk by faith in this authority, there is no seen or unseen force that can stop us from doing the will of God.

In our text of scripture, we have the indisputable authority to bind what God forbids (what He doesn't want) and to loose what He permits (what He desires).

The Word of God reveals what to bind and what to loose. It is the reference of our authority.

Indisputable authority is different than undisputable authority.

'Undisputable' suggests that no one has bothered to question your authority yet, but it does not mean that it should not be questioned.

Indisputable' signifies that the subject is not questionable at all; it is a fact, CASE CLOSED!!!

We know that the enemy will always try to question/dispute our authority and power, especially to us.

His main weapons in doing so are:

- 1. Ignorance- not knowing you have Indisputable Authority and Power or how to use it.
- 2. Shame- knowing you have Indisputable Authority and Power but being ashamed to use it because of what others might say if you do.
- 3. Condemnation- Thinking that Indisputable Authority and Power won't work for you because of what you've done in the past or who you are.
- 4. Fear- not having enough faith to walk confidently in Indisputable Authority and Power.

This Indisputable Authority gives us the ability to function like Jesus here on the earth. 1 John 4:17...because as he is, so are we in this world.

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Romans 8:29 For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren.

Image: (1504)(eikon) properly refers to a "mirror-like representation," something very close in resemblance (like a "high-definition" projection, as defined by the context). Eikon can also refer to a visible manifestation of an invisible and heavenly reality.

Jesus said that He mirrored the Father here on the earth. John 5:19 Then Jesus answered and said to them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of Himself, but what He sees the Father do;

Just as Jesus mirrored the Father, we are to image Jesus.

Matthew 16:19 And I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; The keys are the revelation that flows from the kingdom of God to His chosen ones.

Not only will God give the keys (revelation knowledge of the Kingdom), but He will also make wisdom available to implement Indisputable Authority.

Indisputable Authority grants us the ability to use the keys to God's kingdom to establish His kingdom here on the earth.

Matthew 6:10 Your kingdom come. Your will be done On earth as it is in heaven.

When we walk in Indisputable Authority according to the Word of God, God backs it up because Jesus said "John 15:7 If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you.

The word abide here means being alive and active.

We need to stand firm in our authority in this age because of the level of demonic activity we are facing. 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.

Spiritually speaking, "serpents and scorpions" are a type and shadow of demonic forces.

Remember the apostle Paul said that demonic activity is the root cause of our challenges in life. Ephesians 6:10-12 Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. 11 Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. 12 For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.

These forces of evil have been growing throughout the ages.

Revelation 12:9 So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.

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In Genesis, Satan is described as a serpent; in the book of Revelation, he has grown so much he's described as a dragon.

Understanding our Indisputable Authority allows us to speak with confidence.

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

Rather, we exercise this authority through acquisition or confession; God will back us up.

We have Indisputable authority over all natural and supernatural powers hostile to God's Kingdom.

We have Indisputable authority to call forth blessings (the necessities and desires) that God says we have a right to.