

*The
Believer's
Authority*



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Preface

I write this eBook to call attention to the authority that a believer in Christ has. It is an easy read with large print for the vision impaired.

We will be looking at Bible verses that document real authority given to followers of Christ that was given by Jesus to the 1st century followers and is still available today.

We will look at some myths, some logic and some Biblical examples to gain a full picture. We will discuss the now and how and when this authority operates.

We will hear from other leaders and draw knowledge and perspective that will change the way we view and live out our Christian life.

Introduction

The biggest and most powerful lie that Satan uses to defeat the church of Jesus Christ is, “You do not have the authority to take charge and rule over evil forces.” The devil keeps telling us that when Jesus ascended after his resurrection He left us powerless.

The lie that has persisted in Christian circles and has become a dogma is that all that miracle working power ended with the death of the Apostles. This heresy is now commonplace and believed by most evangelicals.

Do you have power from on high to overcome evil by casting out demons, healing the sick, binding Satan from your thoughts or changing the outcome of a circumstance? Most folks are afraid to even try. They shy away from seeking the lord for a Word of Wisdom or a Word of Knowledge that would help them to better know and accomplish God’s Will.

Do you read the Bible, as it were, a history book? Or is it alive with revelation and truth that stirs up your faith and builds your confidence to act upon what is being communicated by the Holy Spirit?

What if I told you that you have authority as a believer? The same authority that Jesus had and still has is yours. All you need is to engage your believer and receive it.

You can become the head and not the tail. “And the LORD shall make thee the head, and not the tail; and thou shalt be above only, and thou shalt not be beneath; if that thou hearken unto the commandments of the LORD thy God, which I command thee this day, to observe and to do *them*.” **Deut. 28:13**

You can live a victorious life. You just need to believe. How do I know, because Jesus said so? “The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have *it* more abundantly.” **John 10:10**

The Source of Your Authority

We can all agree, I think, that the source of our Spiritual authority comes from Jesus. It was He that spoiled the principalities and powers of evil. “*And having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it.*” **Colossians 2:15** It was He that died for our sins as a penalty. “For he hath made him *to be* sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.” **II Cor. 5:21**

It was Jesus that gave His followers authority over unclean spirits and sent them out two by two. “And he called *unto him* the twelve, and began to send them forth by two and two; and gave them power over unclean spirits;” **Mark 6:7**

It was Jesus that said, “And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever.” **John 14:16** This other comforter is none other than the Holy Spirit that baptized the 120 in the upper room on the day of Pentecost.

Now Hear This...When the Spirit came on the day of Pentecost, He filled everyone with His presence and power. They spoke in other tongues and eventually went out from the upper room to preach, teach, do miracles and walk in the Spirit. Jesus did not abandon them. He sent His Holy Spirit to deliver His power and authority to His church and to become the source of continued power to live in Christ.

Listen to what Paul said to Timothy. “For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind. **II Timothy 1:7** “This *is* the word of the LORD to Zerubbabel: ‘Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit,’ Says the LORD of hosts. **Zechariah 4:6** Thus, our authority is given by God, through Jesus and made accessible through the Holy Spirit.

Here are a few thoughts from Full Gospel Family Publications

One of the most astounding teachings in the Bible is about the Christian's authority in the spiritual realm -- which ultimately affects what we see in earth's natural realm. For many years this concept has been ignored, and only in very recent times has it once again gotten the attention of the Church. I would like to examine the authority of the believer, by comparing it to the authority of our earthly law enforcement system.

We understand that police officers have authority that is backed up by the government, which they serve. There is no question in your mind or the police officer's that when you hear the sirens and see the flashing lights, you had better pull over. This is assuming you are a law-abiding citizen.

We who believe on the Lord Jesus Christ should understand that in His Name we have an even mightier authority than that of the police officer. In **Matthew 28:18**, Jesus said, *...all power [authority] is given unto me in heaven and in earth.*

Jesus has given this authority to us, His followers.

Luke 9:1, 2 says, *Then he called his twelve disciples together, and gave them power and **authority** over all devils, and to cure diseases. And he sent them to preach the kingdom of God, and to heal the sick.*

Mark 13:34 tells us, *for the Son of man is as a man taking a far journey, who left his house, and gave authority to his servants, and to every man his work, and commanded the porter to watch.*

*And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. ... And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; they shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover. **Mark 16:15, 17, 18.***

Clearly, Jesus has promised His authority to those who are His own. The problem is that we do not believe it, and therefore do not exercise it effectively.

Many Christians refuse to believe that Christ's authority belongs to the Church today -- although there is no Scripture that in any way hints that His authority would *not* be available to the Church through all ages. Many are content to get goose bumps by reading about the miracles that take place in third world countries when the authority of Jesus is put to use there. Some of us may go so far as to dare to command a sickness or a devil to be gone from someone we are praying for, but we are fairly complacent when nothing happens. It is what we were expecting anyway, isn't it? What we are forgetting is that the devil is not a law-abiding citizen. He is the lawless one.

What happens when the police officer attempts to use his authority, and finds himself resisted? Does he shrug his shoulders and say, "Well, I guess that didn't work!" No, he turns up the heat of his authority. He pursues and subdues the law-resister. Sometimes there is a stiff fight -- but the lawful authority wins in the end!

So it is with our authority as believers. We need to understand that the infinitely powerful government of heaven backs us up. Jesus Himself is the one who has given us authority in His Name. Sometimes -- in fact, most of the time -- there *is* going to be a stiff fight. Hell doesn't want to let go of its victims all that easily. We need to pursue, press in, and insist on being obeyed. *And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffereth violence, and the violent take it by force.* -- **Matthew 11:12**. Sometimes the police officer needs to use force. Sometimes the believer does, too, in the process of obtaining the desired answer.

There are some qualifications, which we must meet in order to have rightful authority in Christ. Let's continue to look at parallels between the police officer and the Christian.

1. The police officer must be under authority himself, obedient to his superiors. He goes where he has been assigned, not outside his jurisdiction. We believers must be doing what Jesus has said, according to the Bible and His personal word to us as well. We cannot be out doing our own thing for our own pleasure. A clean, submitted heart is imperative.

2. The police officer must continue to stay in contact with his superiors, and must get their direction as needed in difficult situations. We need to be in constant communication with our superior officer -- Jesus.

3. The police officer must know how to use his weapons, or his opponent will run roughshod over him, and maybe kill him. We must be skillful in the use of our weapons -- the Blood of Jesus, the Name of Jesus, our faith. Especially, we have to know the Word of God and use it properly. Appropriate the Word.

4. The police officer must understand the law and not step outside its boundaries. He can't arrest people if they haven't broken the law. We must understand what Jesus has given us and what He has not. If it's in the Book it's ours to use. If it's not clearly in the Book, we're on shaky ground. We need to research from Genesis to Revelation to make sure we're getting it right. Know the Word.

Remember whose authority it is in which we operate. We have no authority to come against the powers of darkness in our own strength. We come against them in the *Name of Jesus*. It is His authority, not ours.

Attempting to execute authority for anything other than His plans, His will, His desires is presumption. It will most certainly fail --and may put us in grave danger as well.

If something is important to you, you will go after it. The things God has promised us in His Word should be vitally important to us -- enough so that we are prepared to take hold and struggle for them at any cost until we obtain them. Anything worth having is worth fighting for. (Article prepared by **Lee Ann Rubsam**)

A Kenneth E. Hagin Perspective About The Authority of The Believer

I'll be honest with you. I don't know whether it's my righteous indignation that gets stirred up or whether I just get plain mad, but something rises up within me when I hear preachers teaching people to fear the devil:

"You'd better be careful! The devil might hear you."
"You'd better be careful. The devil might try to lay sickness and disease on you."

I have authority over myself and my house. If the devil ever comes knocking at my door with sickness, poverty, lack, or oppression, I tell him, "Don't come to my house. You'll have to go peddle that junk somewhere else because I won't receive it!"

But I don't have authority over the devil in your life. Ultimately you'll have to learn to stand against the devil for yourself. Of course, if you are a baby Christian, I can make my faith work for you. But in the final analysis, God will expect you to take authority over the devil for yourself.

If you've already accepted sickness or disease (or anything else the devil tries to bring your way), then you've got a mess on your hands, and you'll have to do something about it. But, thank God, something can be done in the Name of Jesus.

If you give someone else permission, they can pray for you in faith, but, really, you need to do something about taking authority over the devil for yourself. That's one way you grow in who you are in Christ.

Take authority over Satan, sickness, disease, or whatever the enemy is trying to get you to receive. Stand against it for yourself in the Name of Jesus. Believers make a mistake by accepting what the devil brings to them.

You will be defeated if you don't recognize Who is in you and the authority you have in Christ. By failing to recognize that the Greater One dwells in you, you will allow the devil to take advantage of you.

It's one thing for Satan to dominate unsaved people who are in the kingdom of darkness; they're under his authority. But Satan and his cohorts are dominating too many Christians who don't know their authority or don't exercise their authority.

That's why the believer needs to come to prayer understanding that all those spiritual forces have been defeated by Jesus. When the believer prays, he needs to pray from a position of victory because he is seated with Christ in heavenly places, looking down on a defeated foe.

When you come to prayer, pray from a seated position in Christ, far above principalities and powers, where you have joint-seating with Christ. Jesus' victory is your victory. Because of what Jesus did, you are free from Satan's dominion.

Too often Christians just hang on and try to do the best they can, not realizing what their inheritance in Christ really entitles them to. Instead of taking their rightful place in Christ as victors, they magnify the devil, and that gives him access in their lives.

You can dwell on the negative side of things and you will become what you dwell on. What you are thinking about and dwelling on is what you are believing. What you are believing is what you are talking about. And eventually what you are believing and talking about is what you will become.

This applies in the area of demons and demonic activity too. If you think the devil's thoughts, you will become depressed, oppressed, and you can get into error. Or you can think on the Word, and your thinking can become enlightened, illuminated, and flooded with light.

You can go around preaching how powerful the devil is, or you can get on the positive side where the eyes of your understanding have been enlightened to see the wisdom of God. Then you will be on the scriptural side and the victory side where you belong as a believer because of your triumph in Christ.

Because I know Jesus defeated the devil, that's what I think on and talk about. And the Greater One puts me over in life and causes me to succeed because I'm giving place to God and the power of His Word, not to the devil.
<http://www.cfaith.com>

**Duane Vander Klok of walking By Faith, A ministry of
Resurrection Life Church, says this about that....**

You have an enemy. While he might not be visible through natural eyes, Satan, or the devil as he is known, is very real. He is not an imaginary, mythical character, but a spirit being whose number one goal is to “*steal, kill, and destroy*” (**John 10:10**). The devil is at the root of everything evil,

and he works in an attempt to cause destruction to believers and the work of Jesus Christ.

This does not mean that you need to be fearful because, while the devil is against you, God is for you! He has provided everything you need to walk in victory over the devil and his works. 2 Timothy 1:7 reminds us that, *“God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.”*

Before you read further, know this: those who have victory are not those who have no struggles, but those who persist and keep going forward. Without struggles, there would be no need for the power to overcome them. Also, know that no one walks in authority by following a formula; it is about a realization of who the enemy is, and it is about knowing who you are and what you have been given in Christ.

Exposing The Enemy

Whether you realize it or not, Satan knows your strengths and weaknesses. He is watching for opportunities to catch you off guard so he can slip in and cause trouble for you. When that happens, he hopes you will be like many Christians and put the blame elsewhere.

As a subtle manipulator of circumstances, the devil tries to hide his activities by making you blame events, people, or even God for the destructive things he does. Make no mistake about it: your parents, your spouse, your children, your pastor, your employer, God – none of these are the real enemy.

Who is the enemy? Ephesians 6:12 says, *“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.”* The devil is the real enemy!

“Like” A Roaring Lion

1 Peter 5:8-9 (NIV) advises us to: *“Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Resist him, standing firm in the faith...”* Notice that this verse does not say the devil is a roaring lion. It says he is like a roaring lion. He wants to make you believe he has more power than he really does, and he manages to fool

the majority of people. The truth is, the devil's only weapon is that of deception. He has no legal authority over believers.

When Jesus died and rose again, He not only saved you from an eternity in hell, He also redeemed you from Satan's power and dominion over you on the earth. **1 John 3:8** tells us, *"For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil."*

Not only that, but it is recorded in Colossians 2:15 that Jesus *"disarmed principalities and powers,"* and *"He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them..."* The devil is already defeated, and his power has been dismantled by the finished work of Christ on the cross.

You Have Authority

Jesus said, *"Behold, I give you the authority to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you"* (Luke 10:19). That is a great deal of authority!

How is it, then, that the devil is able to keep causing believers so much trouble? It is because many do not exercise the authority God has given them. They are not walking in the understanding that, even though Jesus won the victory, they need to enforce that victory in their daily lives.

Think of it this way: it is illegal for someone to break into your house, but don't you still lock your doors to discourage thieves and to protect your property? In the same way, when it comes to Satan trying to gain entrance into your life, you need to exercise your blood-bought right to close the door in his face. By resisting the devil and standing firm in the faith, you are actively enforcing Jesus' victory.

God has given you all the authority you need to be able to stand against the devil and his works. He has also provided you with armor and spiritual weapons for your warfare against Satan. In his letter to the Ephesians, the Apostle Paul describes these items and defines how to use them. He writes, *"Be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. Put on the whole armor of God that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. Take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand"* (**Ephesians 6:10-11, 13**).

Paul made it clear that, while God has provided the armor, it is the believer's responsibility to put it on and stand against the enemy. We must take our position of authority and use what God has given us.

In The Name of Jesus

The name of Jesus is powerful. Philippians 2:9-10 says, *“Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth...”* When you use Jesus' name, Satan's strongholds cannot stand (**see 2 Corinthians 10:4**).

Think of using the name of Jesus the same way you would use a key to unlock a lock. It doesn't matter if the key belongs to you or not, if you have it in your hand you can open the lock. It is the same with the name of Jesus. Jesus won the victory. Power over the devil is rightfully His, but He has given you the authority to use His name. You have His key in your hand.

Begin today to take authority over the devil and his works in the name of Jesus. When you command him to leave, he must obey just as if Jesus were commanding him (**see Mark 16:17**). You can say, “Sickness, go in the name of Jesus” or “Depression, you must leave in Jesus' name” or “Devil, in the name of Jesus, get out of here!” He has to leave because of the authority that is in Jesus' name.

Keep The Devil Out

Ephesians 4:27 tells us not to give any place to the devil. Whether you have been a believer for twenty days or twenty years, keep building your relationship with God through daily Bible reading, meditating on the Word, and praying. Be involved in a good, Bible-believing church, and develop the practices of fasting, worshiping, and giving. When it comes to keeping the devil out, there is no substitute for godly living.

You do not want to be one who unintentionally gives the devil access by entertaining sin, by being disobedient, or by rebelling against God. Make sure you are quick to forgive others as Christ has forgiven you because having an unwillingness to forgive others can give the devil a foothold in your life (**Mark 11:25**).

James 4:7 instructs us to, *“Submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.”* Because Jesus resisted the devil by submitting to God, He could say, *“...he (the devil) has nothing in Me”* (**John 14:30**). He left no room for the devil to take advantage of Him. Likewise, when you submit to God and resist the devil in the authority Christ has given you, the devil must leave.

Finally...

The victory Christ won, He won for you. After He rose from the grave, victorious over death, sin, and the devil, He proclaimed, *“All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth”* (**Matthew 28:18**). When you received Christ as the Lord of your life, **Colossians 1:13** says you were delivered from the power of darkness and conveyed into God’s kingdom. You can take a bold stand against the devil and his works because of your position in Christ and because you have been given authority over Satan in the name of Jesus. As **Proverbs 28:1** says, *“The wicked flee when no one pursues, but the righteous are bold as a lion.”*

Submit to God, boldly exercise the authority He has given you, and stand firm because, *“He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world”* (**1 John 4:4**).

Five Reasons Believers Don't Walk In The Power And Authority They Have In Christ. (Presented by Charisma Magazine)

1. Sin.... When we habitually sin, we come under Satan's authority, and he has legal rights over us until we repent. That is why Jesus said, "The ruler of this world is coming, and has nothing on Me" (John 14:30, NKJV). Jesus was without sin, so the devil could not get a foothold in His life.

James 5:16 declares, "The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much." This verse points out that authority is given to the righteous. Carlos Annacondia, an Argentine evangelist, once told me that he believes God gave him more authority when he became ruthless about his sin and the sin in his family's life.

Along the same line, we have to be under authority before we can exercise authority. If we are rebellious toward our parents or the authority of our church, we won't have much authority over the evil one.

2. Ignorance.... In Hosea 4:6, God declares, "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge." The Lord showed me that His people are being destroyed by the ignorance of their authority in Christ. Yet the Bible makes it clear that we are not powerless against the enemy.

Second Corinthians 10:3-5 states, "For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh. For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ."

Many believers tend to see the cosmic struggle through the lens of the Asian philosophy of yin and yang, which contends that good and evil forces are opposite each other but equal in power and authority. In reality, Satan is a loser. He is a created being, one of God's fallen angels.

God, on the other hand, is the uncreated Creator who always has been and always will be--He is self-existent. To a believer who is walking in God's authority, Satan is like a toothless lion. It is not that Satan doesn't have some real power--he does. But when we compare his power with God's--there is no comparison.

When David confronted Goliath, Goliath compared his physical prowess with David's. Goliath was insulted that the Israelites would send a mere shepherd boy against him.

However, David didn't compare himself with Goliath; he compared Goliath with God. God was so much greater than Goliath that the match was over before it had a chance to begin (see 1 Sam. 17:41-50).

In observing God's people, I have noticed that way too many of us tend to be ignorant about the source of evil. Satan, not God, is the cause of all the evil in the world. When we have a warped perspective of the sovereignty of God, we become passive in fighting sickness and evil.

After the historic 9/11 tragedy, I was amazed to discover how many people attributed the terrorist attacks to God's judgment. The Bible tells us that

Satan--not God--is the one who comes to kill, steal and destroy (see John 10:10) and that we are to put on the full armor of God and stand firm against the evil one (see Eph. 6:10-18).

3. Unbelief.... Unbelief is a serious sin. Romans 14:23 reads, "But the man who has doubts is condemned if he eats, because his eating is not from faith; and everything that does not come from faith is sin." The book of Hebrews also calls unbelief sinful: "See to it, brothers, that none of you has a sinful, unbelieving heart that turns away from the living God" (3:12). Unbelief is so serious that Jesus could not do many miracles because of the people's lack of faith (see Matt. 13:58).

We can measure the level of our belief or unbelief by asking ourselves, Do we really believe that Jesus defeated the enemy? If we don't, we are unlikely to see the results we desire when we lay hands on the sick.

4. Fear.... Second Timothy 1:7-8 declares, "God has not given us a spirit of fear." Fear paralyzes us and keeps us from wielding the authority we have in Christ to bring healing to others.

First **John 5:18** teaches us that "the wicked one does not touch [whoever is born of God]" (see also **Luke 10:19**). But some people have suffered backlash from the enemy when they engaged in spiritual warfare and are now afraid.

There are many reasons for backlash. Here are some ways to guard against it: Be led by the Spirit; make sure that Satan has no legal right to attack; and obtain prayer covering.

After taking these steps, we can confront the darkness because we have the authority to do so. We need not be afraid of obeying God's directives even if it requires engaging in strategic warfare.

Luke 12:32 gives us wise counsel: "Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom."

5. Prayerlessness.... **Luke 18:1** establishes the importance of prayer: "Then Jesus told His disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up" (NIV).

Ephesians 6:18 elaborates on this point: "And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints."

Evangelist Winkie Pratney once told a story about a pastor's wife who was jogging one day when she saw a man dressed in white standing in a cornfield. The pastor's wife had been going through a difficult trial, and when she saw this man, whom she recognized as Jesus, He said to her: "Don't you know who I am? Don't you know who you are? When you know this, it is not really as hard as you think."

There is a lesson here for all of us. When we know who God is and the authority He has, and when we know who we are in Christ, having faith is not that difficult. And when we have faith, we will begin to release the spiritual authority necessary to perform signs, wonders and miracles.

(Article written by Ché Ahn is senior pastor of Harvest Rock Church in Pasadena, California, and founder and president of Harvest International Ministries, a worldwide network of approximately 1,000 churches and ministries.)

The Now And The How And The When This Authority Operates

Today's Christian's want instant results. I prayed for healing so why didn't it happen? It's been 10 minutes already with no change. I thought it would be NOW not later or not at all. HOW does this authority/ Power, work? WHEN will I see results?

Sometimes there is a pathway on which we must walk to our healing or to see results. Sometimes we see it immediately. The final result is up to God. We are to pray, believe and proclaim in the name of Jesus. He will make it happen as He sees fit.

I can remember a time we prayed for a lady to be healed. It actually took seven months of continual prayer and continual proclaiming of God's Word. My wife prayed for a lady's leg and vein problems. She was healed in that very hour.

The point is, don't give up because you do not see any change. You declare the Word, Believe the Word and Stand in faith until what you have declared comes into existence. (For we walk by faith, not by sight:) **II Cor. 5:7**

Remember, it is the Word that carries all the power and it is your faith and trust in Jesus that what He said is true that gives you the authority.

Some Myths And Some Logic

1. **Myth...**We don't have to do anything because Jesus did it all. **Logic...** If that were true, Jesus would not have commanded us to go into the World and preach the gospel. He would have done it Himself.

We are privileged to participate and see God's power transferred from God to Jesus to His Holy Spirit to us. What a joy to actually see Satan run away at the mention of Jesus and his evil works spoiled at the speaking of the Word of God. We are the head, not the tail. The devil is defeated.

2. **Myth...**There is no evil force that sways our thinking. It is all our decisions. **Logic...**Yes we do make bad decisions and some even sinful or in rebellion to God. But, the apostles told us that we have an enemy that is out to get us. Who do we believe, those that were taught by Jesus or those who deny God and mock our faith?
3. **Myth...**The Bible is just a book and has no final authority over us. **Logic...** The Bible is actually 66 books. It took thousands of years to come into being and translated into multiple languages. It is full of history, faith, and promises from God, counsel, and a lot more. It is the source of Faith to the believer and a lifeline to divine revelation. It has outlasted wars, heretics, atheists, and all the rest of Satan's attacks. One only has to read it to discover that it is indeed the Word of God and His will for their lives.
4. **Myth...**The believer's authority was given only to His immediate followers. When they died, the gifts stopped. **Logic...**It was the gifts that proved that Jesus was who He said He was. It was the passing on of the gifts by the laying on of hands that became a blessing to future believers. The world has 20+ times the population as was in Jesus'

day. Doesn't it seem logical that the gifts would be even more in demand and needed in our day? To end them abruptly is to leave us comfortless and Jesus said He would not do that.

Two Biblical Examples of The Believer's Authority

Ephesians 6:10-18 ...”Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm. Stand therefore, having fastened on the belt of truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness,” ... **God has given us His armor but we must put it on and use it.**

Matthew 14:25-29...”And in the fourth watch of the night Jesus went unto them, walking on the sea. ²⁶ And when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were troubled, saying, It is a spirit; and they cried out for fear. ²⁷ But straightway Jesus spake unto them, saying, Be of good cheer; it is I; be not afraid. ²⁸ And Peter answered him and said, Lord, if it be thou, bid me come unto thee on the water. ²⁹ And he said, Come. And when Peter was come down out of the ship, he walked on the water, to go to Jesus”....**Jesus has the authority or power to walk on water. Peter did not until Jesus bid him to come.** Then he stepped out by faith, trusting in that power or authority and walked on the water... until he took his eyes off of Jesus and looked at the raging sea. He still had the power but decided, because of the fear, to cry out for help. It's called, “Faith Failure”. We have them all the time.

Bible References Related To The Believer's Authority

Mark 16:17 ...And these signs will accompany those who believe: in my name they will cast out demons; they will speak in new tongues;

James 4:7 ...Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

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.

Matthew 16:19 ...I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.”

1 Peter 5:8 ...Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.

Luke 10:19-21 ...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. Nevertheless, do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven.” In that same hour he rejoiced in the Holy Spirit and said, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them to little children; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will.

1 John 4:4 ... Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.

Revelation 12:11 ...And they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, for they loved not their lives even unto death.

Mark 11:23 ...Truly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, ‘Be taken up and thrown into the sea,’ and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that what he says will come to pass, it will be done for him.

Hebrews 4:12 ...For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

Acts 1:8 ...But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

John 14:12 ...“Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father.

Luke 10:17-19 ...The seventy-two returned with joy, saying, “Lord, even the demons are subject to us in your name!” And he said to them, “I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. 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.

Mark 6:13 ...And they cast out many demons and anointed with oil many who were sick and healed them.

Ephesians 6:10-18 ...Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm. Stand therefore, having fastened on the belt of truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, ...

Matthew 28:18-20 ...And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

Psalms 91:13 ...You will tread on the lion and the adder; the young lion and the serpent you will trample underfoot.

Acts 2:39 ...For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself.”

Matthew 10:1 ...And he called to him his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal every disease and every affliction.

Acts 16:18 ...And this she kept doing for many days. Paul, having become greatly annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, “I command you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her.” And it came out that very hour.

Acts 3:6 ...But Peter said, “I have no silver and gold, but what I do have I give to you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk!”

Luke 10:1-42 ...After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them on ahead of him, two by two, into every town and place where he himself was about to go. And he said to them, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest. Go your way; behold, I am sending you out as lambs in the midst of wolves. Carry no moneybag, no knapsack, no sandals, and greet no one on the road. Whatever house you enter, first say, ‘Peace be to this house!’ ...

Acts 2:1-47 ... When the day of Pentecost arrived; they were all together in one place. And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance. Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men from every nation under heaven. ...

Revelation 12:10 ... And I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, “Now the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ have come, for the accuser of our brothers has been thrown down, who accuses them day and night before our God.

1 Corinthians 12:8 ...For to one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit,

Conclusion

We have the Spiritual authority or power of Jesus at our disposal. We can use it or not. If we don't, we will remain defeated and live in a carnal world being plagued by evil forces at every turn. It's far more to our advantage to stand up in the Lord and the power of His might and declare our freedom and walk in His Will.

As in most promises of God, it's up to us. God will not invade our free will. He will sit quietly by and watch us fall and then pick us up and start again to teach our hands to war so we can be victorious.

**I Am A Believer & I Have
Authority To Spoil The
Works of The Devil**



In The Name of Jesus