

KNOW YOUR POSITION - PART1

AUTHORITY OF THE BELIEVER

- We learnt that God has created human in the first place in his image, to have DOMINION over everything on earth.
- But after human fell into the temptation of sin -- we lost that dominion.
- Until He sent his own son Jesus to come to earth to redeem us off from that sin and life of destruction, and take back that Authority that the devil has stolen from us.

The first step of claiming the Authority that has been given to us by God...
The authority that is rightfully ours,
Is by **KNOWING OUR POSITION IN CHRIST.**

1. WHEN YOU MADE JESUS CHRIST THE LORD OF YOUR LIFE

Colossians 1: 13 You were delivered from the power of darkness.

- The word "**POWER**" is translated as **AUTHORITY** - you have already (*past tense*) been delivered from the power or authority of darkness and placed into God's kingdom.

*The value of our authority rests on the power that is behind that authority.
God Himself is the power behind our authority!*

- The devil and his forces are obliged to recognize our authority!
- The believer who understands that the power of God is backing him can exercise his authority and face the enemy fearlessly.
- **POLICEMEN** who direct traffic during the rush hour just raise their hands and the cars stop.
- These men don't have the physical power to stop the vehicles if the drivers choose not to stop.
- But they don't use their own strength to stop traffic; they use the strong authority that is invested in them by the government they serve.
- People recognize that authority and stop their cars.
- He has got the **Authority**, not the physical strength.
- Where did he get all that Authority? It was **delegated** to him.

AUTHORITY is DELEGATED POWER

The same thing with us church....there's authority that's vested in us by the Lord Jesus Christ!

Paul told believers to be strong in the Lord, and in the power of His might (Eph. 6:10).

Ephesians 6:10

Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might.

The verse did not say: Be strong in yourself.

When having problems we often say: "I'm trying to be strong..." not being strong in your strength.

- "Be strong in the Lord"
- How can we be strong in the Lord?
- Because he has delegated Authority to you. Its in HIM.

- That means you can step out in front of the devil, hold up your hand, and tell him not to come any closer.
- Use your authority!

Jesus said in [Luke 10:19](#)

I have given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and to overcome all the power of the enemy; nothing will harm you.

Matthew 28:18-19

And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All **AUTHORITY** has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. 19 Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

- Power was given to us as your **inheritance** in Christ Jesus - TO disciple and take over the nations so the kingdoms of this world become the kingdoms of our God.

There is a PURPOSE in our POWER.

- Jesus did not give us Power for the sake of us exercising Power to increase the quality of our life, to be blessed....
- But he said "I'm giving you all this Power.... So therefore GO, and MAKE DISCIPLES OF ALL NATIONS!!"

- We have entered into this position of Authority because you are in Him.

- Jesus succeeded in securing all power by going to the Cross, dying a horrible death, suffering the penalty for sin, and defeating Satan in the pit of hell.

- Jesus came to earth as a man for one reason: to [recapture the authority Satan had stolen](#) through Adam's disobedience in the Garden - Jesus was called the "second" or the "last" Adam.

- After securing the power and authority Satan stole from mankind, [Jesus freely transferred it over to those who believe in Him - you and I.](#)

1 Corinthians 15:45 - And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam was made a quickening spirit.

2. WE ARE SEATED WITH CHRIST

Ephesians 2:6 (God) raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ.

- We are seated with Him in high authority and as believers we are part of His body, and we are seated with Him in that highly exalted place of authority!
- You cannot separate the head from the body--they are one--and we are seated together.
- One of the most vital areas of the believer's authority is to successfully stand against him.

Matthew 28:18 Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

• ALL AUTHORITY IS GIVEN TO ME IN HEAVEN AND IN EARTH -

When Christ ascended, He transferred His authority to the Church.

He is the Head of the Church, and believers make up the Body. Christ's authority has to be perpetuated through His Body, which is on the earth.

(Throughout Ephesians and elsewhere in the epistles, Paul uses the human body as an illustration of the Body of Christ. - we are the Body of Christ)

• CHRIST IS SEATED AT THE RIGHT HAND OF THE FATHER: A PLACE OF AUTHORITY.

and we're seated with Him.

If you know anything about history, you know that **TO SIT AT THE RIGHT HAND OF THE KING OR POPE** means **AUTHORITY**.

We died with Christ, and we were raised with Him.

This is not something God is going to do in the future; He already has done it!

3. ASK GOD TO OPEN YOUR EYES TO THE AUTHORITY OF THE BELIEVER

Ephesians 1: 18-23

the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, 19 and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power 20 which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, 21 far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come. 22 And He put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to the church, 23 which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.

Colossians 2: 15 Having disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it.

The source of our authority is found in this resurrection and exalting of Christ by God

- Paul prayed OUR SPIRITS WOULD BE OPEN TO THE TRUTH OF THE BELIEVER'S AUTHORITY.
- We can't understand this with our intellect, we must get [SPIRITUAL REVELATION](#).

You must believe it by FAITH.

4. IT'S OUR RESPONSIBILITY NOW TO DEAL WITH SATAN

Ephesians 6:11 Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

- It is your responsibility as a believer to [PUT ON THAT ARMOR](#) and [STAND AGAINST THE DEVIL](#).
- Take your responsibility and speak directly to Satan yourself; stand your ground firmly and he will flee!

The Christian who puts on this armor and engages in spiritual warfare is marked.

By spiritual warfare I simply mean **doing the works of Jesus** and **taking our authority over the devil as we go about our daily lives**.

I am not talking about purposely trying to go head-to-head with Satan in some kind of prayer combat.

The devil will do everything in his power to keep you from coming into this knowledge of authority over him. He'll fight you more over this than any other subject.

Then, after you have come to the knowledge of this authority, he'll oppose you and try to steal it from you.

There will be tests, and sometimes people fail those tests. The devil wants you to throw up your hands and say the authority of the believer won't work for you.

EPHESIANS 6:10-17

10 Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might [not your might].

11 Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

12 For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness [or wicked spirits] in high places.

13 Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. [If you put on the whole armor of God, you'll stand.]

14 Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; 15 And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace;

16 ABOVE ALL, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. [Not one fiery dart should get through to your body, soul, or mind, because you've got the shield of faith.]

17 And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

The different parts of this **ARMOR** symbolize **SPIRITUAL TRUTHS** which belong to the believer.

Wearing this armor, the believer is protected in his ministry of authority.

All he needs to be concerned about is keeping his armor bright and well secured about him. Now let's take a closer look at this armor:

First, **there's the girdle of truth**, which represents a clear understanding of God's Word. Like a soldier's belt, it holds the rest of the armor in place.

Second is the **breastplate of righteousness**. This has a twofold application: Jesus is our Righteousness, and we put Him on first. It also shows our obedience to the Word of God.

Third, **our feet** are shod with the preparation of the Gospel of *peace*. This is a faithful ministry proclaiming the Word of God.

Fourth is **the shield of faith**. A shield is a covering for the entire body. This represents our complete safety under the blood of Christ, where no power of the enemy can penetrate.

Fifth is **the helmet of salvation**, referred to in First Thessalonians 5:8 as the hope of salvation. The hope of salvation is the only helmet able to protect the head in these days of turning from the truth.

Sixth is **the sword of the Spirit**, which is *the Word of God*.

This shows that the Word of God is to be used offensively. The other parts of the armor are mainly defensive, but the sword— the Word of God—is an active weapon. Dressed in the armor of God, you are prepared to withstand every attack of the enemy.

- You have the power and authority to take the Word of God, the name of Jesus, the power of the Holy Spirit, and run Satan out of your life!

James 4:7

Therefore obey / submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you