

CHIEF MINISTRIES

November 2020

“Jesus said to them, listen – no one is able to break into a mighty man’s house and steal his property unless he first overpowers the mighty man and ties him up. Then his entire house can be plundered and his possessions taken.” (Mark 3:27 TPT).

This verse is telling us that, yes!, we can defeat Satan by tying up the forces of darkness, robbing their “house”, and setting free those who are enslaved by him. The evil of Satan must be driven out. Throughout the New Testament we read of how many suffered from Satan’s oppression and influence because of the indwelling of evil spirits. Demons are spirit beings that have personalities and are intelligent (Greek: daimonion or evil spirits). Just as God has a spiritual order, so does Satan.

“When a demon is cast out of a person, it roams around a dry region, looking for a place to rest, but never finds it. ^{v44} Then it says, ‘I’ll return to the house I moved out of,’ and so it goes back, only to find that the house is vacant, warm, and ready to move back in. So it goes looking for seven other demons more evil than itself, and they all enter together to live there. Then the person’s condition becomes much worse than it was in the beginning. This describes what will also happen to the people of this evil generation.” (Matthew 12:43-45 TPT).

There are 12 manifestations and/or attributes of an unclean spirit that are seen in the Scriptures. The number 12 signifies government or authority. We see here how the evil spirit responded to being removed, and the lengths it was willing to go to return.

Demons are the power behind idol gods. Unfortunately, many Christians are deceived by not knowing the true nature of Christ. Demons can and do live in unbelievers. In Mark 5:12, we see that demons have the ability to speak, they channel their voices through their victims: *“So all the devils begged Him, saying, ‘Send us to the swine that we may enter them.’”* We must be very careful what we allow to influence us in areas of media, including television, music, and reading material. Every choice has a consequence. Our souls can be affected by demonic influence, directing our thoughts, emotions and actions. This is why we must guard our hearts and minds. Of course, in these last days, evil spirits will be promoting more violence, immorality, greed and acceptance of occult activity. Even Wicca is recognized as a religion and has an IRS status. We will see more evil released on the big screens, television, magazines and music. We have become so desensitized that we consider there to be no harm in permitting these actions to take place. We forget that we do have a voice and need to start crying out just as Mordechai did when a decree was issued to kill all the Jews. This was with a pure fast and mourning, crying out to the Father because they had sinned against the Lord their God.

I believe we are at a time when we need to cry out by fasting and with sackcloth and ashes to proclaim death to our needs and wants and to pick up His needs. We are no different in many areas than our ancestors. Yes, we have a great heritage, but the Father is looking for those who will take a stand and not allow the diseased sacrifices to remain on His altar. In Matthew 12:29, Jesus came to earth to bind Satan, and set free those enslaved to him, by doing for them what they could not do for themselves. Jesus became the perfect sacrifice. He is the Lamb of God. We have the resurrected power of Jesus to overpower the enemy and destroy the works of darkness. What we do not conquer – face, deal with, process through – will eventually conquer us. *“Let us serve notice this day:....as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord” (Joshua 24:15).*

We are the church, not the building. That is just a structure. We make up the body of Christ, not doors, windows or walls. Power and authority have two systems in operation. The first system, power, is dunamis as used in Acts

1:8; "But you will receive power and ability when the Holy Spirit comes upon you; and you will be my witnesses (to tell people about me) both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and Samaria, and even to the ends of the earth."

Power is visible.

Authority, the second system, is given to us (Greek: the ecclesia) from Jesus. We have been given all authority over the kingdom of darkness. Authority is the power or right to give orders, make decisions, and enforce obedience. In Luke 10:19 we read: *Listen carefully, I have given you authority (that you now possess) to tread on serpents and scorpions and (the ability to exercise authority) over all the power of the enemy (Satan); and nothing will (in any way) harm you.*

Authority impacts the darkness; you go from visible to the invisible. You step into a different realm of the Spirit.

As you are saved and filled with the Holy Spirit, you have dunamis power. You can pray for others and expect to see miracles and healings take place in the natural realm. As you step into the authority given you, you step into the spiritual realm. It's like a veil that you stepped through. Power is visible. Authority impacts the darkness visible to invisible. The Father says throughout His Word that we are to walk in authority. Limitations will come through Satan and our carnal nature, but I hear the Father saying, "Tell my sons and daughters take off the limitations! Step over and beyond the limitations you are believing and trust Me and My Word!"

When you read this, you can perceive my insight into the mystery of Christ, ^{v5} which was not made known to the sons of men in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit. ^{v6} This mystery is that the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. ^{v7} Of this gospel I was made a minister according to the gift of God's grace, which was given me by the working of his power. ^{v8} to me, though I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, ^{v9} and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God, who created all things, ^{v10} so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places ^{v11} This was according to the eternal purpose that he has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord, ^{v12} in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in him. (Ephesians 3:4-12 ESV).

See it is God's will and intent for us, as the church, to combat the ruling powers of darkness in the spiritual realm, proclaiming salvation through spiritual warfare against Satan and his friends. In Daniel 9:2-23, Daniel went into intercession and turned to the Lord God, pleading with him in prayer and petition, in fasting, and in sackcloth and ashes. *Then I turned my face to the Lord God, seeking him by prayer and pleas for mercy with fasting and sackcloth and ashes. (Daniel 9:3 ESV).*

Unfortunately, many people do not get past saying a prayer, they simply don't know how to petition the Lord and hold on until they get their answer: *The prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me twenty-one days, but Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, for I was left there with the kings of Persia, (Daniel 10:13 ESV).*

We need to hold on, pray, and wait. I have seen a lot of defeated brothers quit and walk away when the pressure is on. Obviously, Satan didn't want us to be victorious. He is always intruding in our Promised Land. When you are at what feels like your weakest point, the enemy will send his enforcers to attempt to make sure that you do not make it. This is why many are called, but few are chosen. We must hold on until we get our blessing!

For thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, 'The jar of flour shall not be spent, and the jug of oil shall not be empty, until the day that the LORD sends rain upon the earth.' (1 Kings 17:14 ESV).

The flour represents the bread of life, which is the Word of God, and the oil is the Holy Spirit, who brings light into the darkness. The Lord will reign on the land, and that is the power of the Holy Spirit in us. As the story goes, Elijah had to stand up against the king and queen, the priests and prophets of that time – and he stood for His God.

Today, God is looking for those who will hear and heed His voice and be obedient, even if it means to separate himself from them and go and do something so obscure that it makes no sense, (it's how I've felt about having to do

this prison time). God will take care of you. Are you afraid to go forth into what God has called you to do? Are you standing in a place where He didn't tell you to be? You may be barely holding on, going to church out of habit or obligation. Just know that when your season is over, it's over, and you can pick up and move on. Set us free, Jesus!

Amos 8:11 says, "*The days are coming; declares the Sovereign Lord, 'when I will send a famine through the land – not a famine of food or of thirst for water, but a famine of hearing the words of the Lord!'*" The prophet Amos spoke of a different kind of famine. He called it a famine of not having the words of the Lord. We are at a time when Amos's prophecy is coming to pass. We have more Revelation and knowledge than any generation, yet people are starving for the intimate knowledge of God. They only know that they are looking for something, not knowing how to access it. God has given us true power through His Word, the authority to multiply, subdue and take dominion. The true power bubbles up from an intimacy with Him. With His Word we can do all things. We must not take His Word for granted. His grace and mercy flows with love and compassion from above.

Knowing who we are and what we are called to do is vital for today's church. Too often men and women of God have become power-hungry. It's seen in the media and in their character. Most start out with the right intentions, but, like King Ahab, they end up selling their souls for power, lust, and greed. I have seen plenty of this.

If as a child we have gone through trauma or been overlooked, we might believe other people's opinion of ourselves instead of God's. I see many times that those behind the pulpits would be better off elsewhere. People who are wounded sometimes seek validation by holding positions of power rather than positions that fit God's destiny for them. This can often cause people to not be in the correct position on the wall or battle line where they belong. We have negated the lesser gifts as nothing, as though they're not important. It is important to remember that all gifts are from the Holy Spirit.

It is also exciting to witness movements where people are choosing to walk in the fullness of the Holy Spirit, (I think of Bethel Church in Redding California or Elevation Church out of North Carolina) both inside and outside the church walls. There was a time when people did not believe in speaking in tongues and denied knowing that they had a heavenly language. Faith was also treated this way, and I believe that stemmed from a spirit of pride that entered into many churches and leaders who were operating out of arrogance and control. If anything, this year should have released a greater hunger for the truth regarding spiritual warfare and will pave the way for a greater manifestation of His glory released on the earth!

Call on Him and His angels to be there as you desire to be a living sacrifice for our King. Take a stand and believe God at His Word. *So shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it. (Isaiah 55:11 ESV).*

You too are a force of Holy Spirit fire, and with each step you take, darkness has to bow, every time! We have access to so much power and authority – yet many don't walk in it because they have not learned to believe in their strength through Christ.

Will you be a voice for Jesus, going into the dark to stand against tyranny, darkness, and the lies of the enemy? You have the power and the authority. You've got this! Whatever you are doing for God, do it with all your heart. God will lead you and guide you through whatever the situation might be.

God is with us!

And I'm believing with you.

Chief

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Christ's

Heart

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