

OPERATING UNDER AUTHORITY

We have already talked about the Lord's love, spiritual gifts, the benefits of God, our identity in Christ and last week we started talking about our authority in Christ.

God wants us to be aware of the authority we have in Christ.

That will not only make a difference in our lives, but also in the lives of other people.

When we operate in the authority of Christ, we are not acting in our name, we are acting in his name as his ambassadors.

To act in his authority we have to keep our eyes on Jesus, not on ourselves or other things.

We must operate out of relationship with him.

The enemy wants to use unbelief to interrupt our authority.

We need to use the keys God has given us to take captive every wrong thought and lock it up.

The centurion in Matthew 8 was a man with authority, but also a man under authority.

In order to have authority, you must be under authority.

God wants to exercise his authority through us today, but for that to happen we must be under his authority, or in other words, we must submit to his authority.

Authority always comes from someone higher than us.

Adam was given dominion, or in other words, authority over the earth.

But when Adam sinned, he lost his ability to rule and reign.

Adam forfeited his authority to the devil, Jesus came and took it back.

Jesus now has all authority in heaven and in earth.

Satan still works today to deceive people and take away the authority they can have in Christ.

All authority is linked to obedience.

We need to get our thoughts, our lives, our words, our habits, our entertainment, our music that we listen to, etc, etc, etc, under the authority of Christ.

Sometimes our earthly bosses or authorities mistreat us, but we never have to worry about that with our heavenly father, he's a good good father, we can submit to him.

Jesus submitted to both heavenly and earthly authorities when he was physically in the earth.

He submitted to his heavenly father and the Holy Spirit as well as to his earthly parents and the government.

Sometimes Jesus' disciples got it wrong, but sometimes they got it right, it's still that way.

If we are too afraid of getting it wrong, then we won't do anything at all, which means we can never get it right either.

We have to risk getting it wrong so that sometimes we can get it right.

Jesus has given us the keys to the kingdom.

Do we believe in Jesus the way the centurion did?

That's the kind of faith we need to get to.

We are supposed to be doing the same kind of works Jesus did (and even greater).

We must not be ashamed of the gospel, we must let our light shine.

We have the key of the gospel for salvation, we have the key of faith, we have the key of healing.

We need to be willing to use these keys.

When you obey God sometimes you will feel like a success and sometimes you will feel like a failure.

We have the keys of freedom.

We have the keys of deliverance.

1. The source of our authority is Jesus Christ.
2. The secret of our authority is obedience.
3. We need to understand the scope of our authority.

SCRIPTURE LIST

Matthew 8:5-13

Romans 5:17

Matthew 16:19

Mark 1:22

Matthew 10:1

John 14:12

Matthew 28:18

John 4:1-42

Mark 16:17-18

Revelation 1:18

Matthew 17:14-20

John 8:36

Ephesians 2:2

Mark 10:13-16