

WHO DIED AND MADE YOU BOSS

In Genesis 1 God gave man authority over the earth. When Satan deceived Adam he not only lost his connection with the source of life he also lost the authority over the earth and Satan became the god of this world.

He spread out the fallen angels, rulers, demons, principalities, and powers over all the world. He assigned them to influence nations, countries, counties, cities, neighborhoods, and families with one mission: steal, kill and destroy.

Jesus confirms this.

Luke 4:5-6 Then the devil, taking Him up on a high mountain, showed Him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time. 6 And the devil said to Him, "All this authority I will give You, and their glory; for this has been delivered to me, and I give it to whomever I wish.

If Satan did not have authority, Jesus would have rebuked him for such a bold statement.

God's answer.

Genesis 3:15 And I will put enmity Between you and the woman, And between your seed and her Seed; **He shall bruise your head, And you shall bruise His heel."**

Do you see the reference to authority? You will be under his feet.

When authority was won back.

Revelation 1:18 I am He who lives, and was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore. Amen. And I have the keys of Hades and of Death.

Jesus said that it was through His death, burial, and resurrection that he won back authority.

When Jesus' body laid in the tomb, His spirit went down to Hades and took back the keys of the kingdom. But the final blow was His resurrection. Satan thought he had won the battle by having Jesus killed, he did not know that it was all part of God's plan to restore the kingdom, that when he overcame the grave he won the victory over sin, Satan, and death once for all.

Let's look at this victory.

Colossians 2:15 MSG He stripped all the spiritual tyrants in the universe of their sham authority at the Cross and marched them naked through the streets.

Colossians 2:15 TPT Then Jesus made a public spectacle of all the powers and principalities of darkness, stripping away from them every weapon and all their spiritual authority and power to accuse us. And by the power of the cross, Jesus led them around as prisoners in a procession of triumph. He was not their prisoner; they were his!

To understand the power of this we have to understand the comparison Paul is making. When a country would win a battle they would take the king or the highest ranking official that lived, they would strip him naked, stripping away every sign of royalty, dignity and power, they would cut off his big toes so he could never advance again, they would cut off his thumbs so that he could never hold a weapon again. This was a sign of total defeat.

In the natural realm nothing appeared to take place at the resurrection of Jesus, but in the spirit realm, every spiritual being both good and evil saw Satan's utter defeat. Everyone in the kingdom seems to know this victory took place except the church.

Jesus is seated in the place of authority.

Ephesians 1:19-21 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.**

God placed Jesus in the ultimate place of authority, at his right hand, where he reigns as ruler over all spiritual forces.

Jesus is given the name above all names.

Philippians 2:9-11 Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, 10 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, 11 and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

God gave Jesus the name above every name, every demon, principality, power, and every demonic assault that has a name, from cancer to depression is subject to the name of Jesus.

Jesus deputizes the church.

Matthew 28:18-20 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, 20 teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen.

(Great Co-mission) To with, together or in union

When is authority given to the church?

Romans 6:5 For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection.

Ephesians 2:6 GNT In our union with Christ Jesus he raised us up with him to rule with him in the heavenly world.

The moment you are born again, spiritually speaking you are co-seated in the place of authority with Jesus. Every spiritual force in the universe knows how powerful you are, that they have already been defeated and they are subject to you. The problem is that most of us don't know it.

Jesus tells us how our authority works.

John 14:12-14 TPT "I tell you this timeless truth: The person who follows me in faith, believing in me, will do the same mighty miracles that I do—even greater miracles than these because I go to be with my Father! For I will do whatever you ask me to do when you ask me in **my name**. And that is how the Son will show that the Father is really like and bring glory to him. Ask me anything in **my name**, and I will do it for you!"

We have to understand the context of what Jesus is saying. He just finished explaining how he was fulfilling his mission of destroying the works of the devil, that it the Father's power working through him.

First, he says we have to follow him in faith, or use your faith the same way that he did. He heard the Father, did what he said and trusted in the Father's power to fulfill the promise.

Secondly, he says you have to believe in me. You have to believe all that he accomplished through the atonement and the words he promised to fulfill.

Next, we have to understand that he is teaching us how to use our authority, not pray. When we see the word ask, we normally think he is talking about prayer, but that is not what he is talking about here, and if you look up the word *ask* in the Greek it also means to demand or command.

(Bank illustration)

Jesus is saying that whatever you command in my name I will do. We must understand he is talking about destroying the works of the devil. So, you are not commanding him, you are speaking to demonic forces and commanding them to leave.

Now remember that the name of Jesus is the name above every name. The name of Jesus is your power of attorney, or legal right to use His power. It is how you release your authority.

Think about how power of attorney works in the natural realm. When someone dies and they give you power of attorney. It is so you can act on their behalf, the truth is that you are acting AS them.

When you get born again you become one with God in Christ, you are placed in the same place of authority as Christ, and you are given the authority to use the same power as Christ through his name.

Authority in action.

Luke 10:17 TPT When the seventy missionaries returned to Jesus, they were ecstatic with joy, telling him, "Lord, even the demons obeyed us when we **commanded them in your name!**"

Acts 3:6-7 NLT But Peter said, "I don't have any silver or gold for you. But I'll give you what I have. **In the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, get up and walk!**" 7 Then Peter took the lame man by the right hand and helped him up. And as he did, the man's feet and ankles were instantly healed and strengthened.

Peter's response to the miracle.

Acts 3:12 Peter saw his opportunity and addressed the crowd. "People of Israel," he said, "what is so surprising about this? And why stare at us as though we had made this man walk by our own power or godliness?"

Acts 3:16 NLT "Through faith in the name of Jesus, this man was healed—and you know how crippled he was before. **Faith in Jesus' name has healed him before your very eyes.**

Peter testifies about the power of Jesus' name.

Acts 4:9-10 Are we being questioned today because we've done a good deed for a crippled man? **Do you want to know how he was healed? 10 Let me clearly state to all of you and to all the people of Israel that he was healed by the powerful name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene,** the man you crucified but whom God raised from the dead.

The Jews plan to stop the Church.

Acts 4:17-18 NLT But to keep them from spreading their propaganda any further, we must warn them not to speak to anyone **in Jesus' name** again." 18 So they called the apostles back in and commanded them never again to speak or teach in the **name of Jesus**.

We are in a spiritual battle.

Ephesians 6:12 NLT For we are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world, and against evil spirits in the heavenly places.

In order to begin to win the spiritual battle we are in we are going to have to start doing it God's way.

Let's take for instance the demonic onslaught that is coming against our kids.

This is a spiritual battle, and it can't be won through natural means.

For some parents they have concluded that the teachers' union is just too powerful so they are taking their kids out of public school hoping that the loss of funding will change their minds.

For others they have confronted local school boards, appealing to their common sense.

We have been trying these tactics for multiple generations and nothing is getting better, the truth is it gets worse with every generation.

Even when we try to fight the battle on a spiritual level, we are not doing it according to the plan of Jesus.

For generations good sincere Christian parents have been praying for God to intercede and stop the onslaught of the Devil.

Jesus understands very clearly the authority that he gave to the church, and he told us how to use it.

He said that he is the head, the church is the body. The head can't accomplish a thing without the cooperation of the body.

The church is the answer for your house, neighborhood, county, state and country.

Matthew 16:19 CJB I will give you the keys of the Kingdom of Heaven. **Whatever you prohibit on earth will be prohibited in heaven, and whatever you permit on earth will be permitted in heaven."**

There are two prayers that God **can't** answer.

1) When we ask him to do what Jesus already did.

2) When we ask Him to do what he told us to do.