

USE YOUR AUTHORITY

“And the seventy returned again with joy, saying, Lord, even the devils are subject unto us through thy name. And he said unto them, I beheld Satan as lightning fall from heaven. Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you. Notwithstanding in this rejoice not, that the spirits are subject unto you; but rather rejoice, because your names are written in heaven.” Luke 10:17-20, KJV.

MAIN THOUGHT: More than ever, it is essential for God’s people to rise up in their God-given authority and rout the forces of darkness in the world today.

THE CHURCH HAS BEEN GIVEN AUTHORITY IN THE EARTH

- And hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father; to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen. (Revelation 1:6, KJV).
- For if by one man's offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ.) (Romans 5:17, KJV).
- “Wherefore I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus, and love unto all the saints, Cease not to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers; That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him: The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints, And what is the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power, Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places, Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come: And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church, Which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all.” Ephesians 1:15-23, KJV.

Today we are facing spiritual adversity on every side. . . But thank God, the devil is defeated and this hour God is going to invade these strongholds and bring down these evil powers. He will use your prayers.

The question I want to ask you today is:

Do you know your authority in Christ?

Do you have your armor on?

Are you equipped for the battle that is at hand?

If not, don’t wait, it’s time to get ready: for yourself, for your family, for your nation, for the world. Will you face the challenges that lie ahead by chewing your fingernails and wondering when God is going to do something OR will you stand up as a soldier in the army of the Lord to do battle against the forces of darkness.

LET’S GET EQUIPPED

Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. 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 in high places. Wherefore take unto you the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace; Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God: Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints; And for me, that utterance may be given unto me, that I may open my mouth boldly, to make known the mystery of the gospel, (Ephesians 6:10-19, KJV).

He says, YOU BE STRONG in HIS MIGHT. . . It's God's power and authority working in you. To succeed you must put on His armor. You need to be established in truth, in righteousness. You must have your Gospel get ready shoes on, and your shield of faith. You must be ready to wield your "It is written" sword. You must be prepared through communion with the Father and study of the Word of God.

WHAT IS SPIRITUAL WARFARE

And it came to pass, as we went to prayer, a certain damsel possessed with a spirit of divination met us, which brought her masters much gain by soothsaying: The same followed Paul and us, and cried, saying, These men are the servants of the most high God, which shew unto us the way of salvation. And this did she many days. But Paul, being grieved, turned and said to the spirit, I command thee in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her. And he came out the same hour. (Acts 16:16-18, KJV).

Some times the devil can sound very religious. He may even flatter you. But he comes as an angel of light. He comes in a masquerade. This is why we need the discerning of spirits in this hour. We need to know what we are dealing with it. . . and we need to know how to deal with it.

Territorial warfare. . .

But the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me one and twenty days: but, lo, Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me; and I remained there with the kings of Persia. (Daniel 10:13, KJV).

USE THE NAME

- And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; (Mark 16:17, KJV).
- And his name through faith in his name hath made this man strong, whom ye see and know: yea, the faith which is by him hath given him this perfect soundness in the presence of you all. (Acts 3:16, KJV).
- Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father. And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it. (John 14:12-14, KJV).

The name of Jesus carries all the authority of God. This is the authority that He gave us when He sent us into all the world. All authority is given unto me, Go ye therefore. . . (Mat. 28) Every knee shall bow to the name of Jesus.

OUR USE OF THE NAME IS BASED ON RELATIONSHIP WITH THE LORD

Then certain of the vagabond Jews, exorcists, took upon them to call over them which had evil spirits the name of the Lord Jesus, saying, We adjure you by Jesus whom Paul preacheth. And there were seven sons of one Sceva, a Jew, and chief of the priests, which did so. And the evil spirit answered and said, Jesus I know, and Paul I know; but who are ye? And the man in whom the evil spirit was leaped on them, and overcame them, and prevailed against them, so that they fled out of that house naked and wounded. And this was known to all the Jews and Greeks also dwelling at Ephesus; and fear fell on them all, and the name of the Lord Jesus was magnified. And many that believed came, and confessed, and shewed their deeds. Many of them also which used curious arts brought their books together, and burned them before all men: and they counted the price of them, and found it fifty thousand pieces of silver. So mightily grew the word of God and prevailed. (Acts 19:13-20, KJV).

The name of Jesus is not a magic formula for success in the spirit realm, it is a divine signature given to the follows of Christ to use against the enemy. . . to stand in the evil day. This day qualifies and it's time for the church to stand.

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