



I GIVE YOU AUTHORITY

WEEK 2 – CHAPTERS 3 & 4

BASED ON DR. KRAFT'S BOOK, I GIVE YOU AUTHORITY

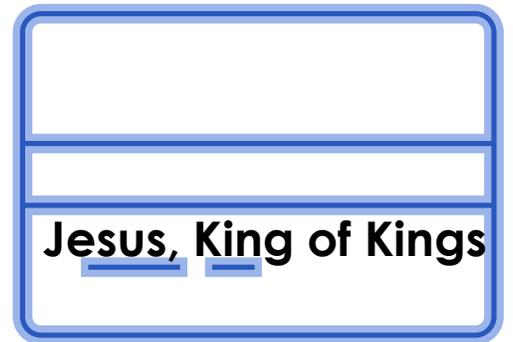
The Meaning of Power and Authority

Jesus completed His assignment on earth. He went to the cross joyfully to become that sinless sacrifice, made a spectacle out of the enemy, and spent some time with His disciples talking about the Kingdom. He restored to us the authority humanity had lost through Adam. In other words, we now have that special credit card with the name above all names on it - and our name as well.

It's our Master's Card!

The Master's Card

- ▶ We get to charge to His account in this world. He will back up the answer with power, as long as our request is one He approves. What a way to be launched into a ministry of love, power and authority, to do what He did - and even more! That is what the Bible says! (What does your worldview say about that?)
- ▶ Remember - He did those miracles as a man!



Our Task

To align our will with the Father and with Jesus, so we can use that authority.

How does that happen? By spending time in prayer and fellowship with God in private to receive His instructions.

Then He releases to us the necessary power and authority for the task ahead.

Is There a Glitch in the Process?



Perhaps we don't see all healed as Jesus did. He had a 100% record! Could it be we need to go deeper to hear His voice and to follow His will?



His will is to see people blessed, free from captivity, and experiencing love. Jesus never left people with their problems. Our intimacy with God must increase so we feel His heart for people.



Jesus believed the whole Word, but He asked: Will I find faith when I return?

Jesus' Instruction and Promise

Jesus' Instruction: Teach others to obey everything He had commanded them.

- Matthew 28:20 - "...teaching them to observe everything that I have commanded you, and behold, I am with you all the days (perpetually, uniformly, and on every occasion), to the [very] close *and* consummation of the age. Amen (so let it be).

Jesus' Promise: That anyone who believes will do the same works He has done.

- John 14:12 "I assure you, most solemnly I tell you, if anyone steadfastly **believes** in Me, he will himself be able to do the things that I do; and he will do even greater things than these, because I go to the Father."

Opportunity to Use the Master's Card

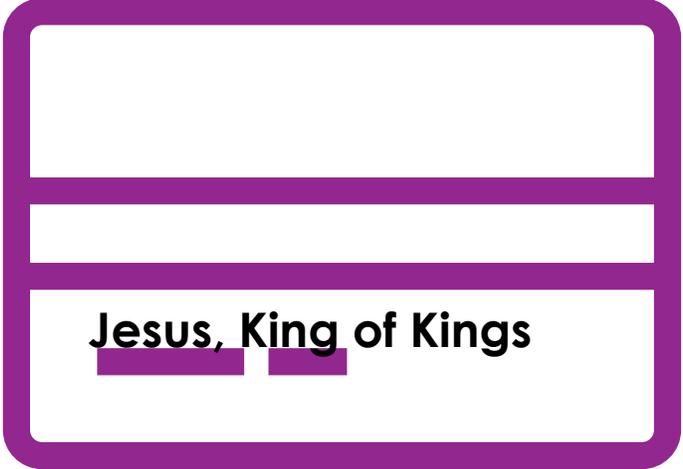
- ▶ We have the opportunity to minister as Jesus did - in sickness, death, blessing, deliverance from demons, granting forgiveness (John 20:23), teaching and, above all, loving! He gave gifts to us to make this all possible (Ephesians 4:8).
- ▶ He commanded the person to be well (Luke 4:39, 5:13), or for demons to leave (Luke 4:35), or the winds and waves to be still (Luke 8:24), or the person being healed to do something in faith (Luke 5:24).
- ▶ He gave the authority to the disciples to do these things in Luke 9 - and then gave the same instructions to the 70 in Luke 10.
- ▶ Did He ever rescind that authority?

Keys to Using the Card

- ▶ We line up with Father's will and then speak on His behalf, speaking authoritatively to correct the situation.
- ▶ There is a spirit world and it is always listening!
- ▶ The spirit world cannot ignore what we are saying, as long as it lines up with God's will!
- ▶ This is a Biblical Worldview.

Is this Jesus' worldview?

Is it your worldview?



Jesus, King of Kings

What Jesus Said About Power and Authority

Mathew 28:18 – “I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth.”

Luke 10:19 – “I have given you (the disciples) authority so that you can - overcome all the power of the enemy.”

Luke 9:1-2 – He defined authority as the "power and authority to drive out all demons and to cure diseases.”

That is Jesus' worldview!

Dunamis

- ▶ *Dunamis* - occurs 118 times in the New Testament. A Greek word, it means “power, might, strength or force”, and is often used in the plural to refer to miracles, wonders, as in the phrase “signs and wonders” (Acts 2:22, 2 Cor. 12:11-12; Hebrews 2:4). Also used to refer to supernatural beings – the “powers”, as in Romans 8:38.
- ▶ The power of God is ordinarily referred to as *dunamis*, as is the power Jesus gives us. Earthly power, whether of rulers, armies or weather, was also labeled *dunamis*.



Exousia

11

- ▶ Another Greek term, **Exousia**, focuses on the right to use power, rather than the power itself. It's found 108 times in the New Testament.
- ▶ It is always related to people! It is a personal right, conferred either because of status or by delegation, to assert power, whether in the legal, political, social or moral domains, and whether in the human or spiritual realm.

Both Power
(*dunamis*)
and Authority
(*exousia*)
Flow From the
Work of Christ

- ▶ In the New Testament, both power (*dunamis*) and authority (*exousia*) flow from the work of Christ.
- ▶ He employed them and He empowered His followers to do His works. Jesus got that power from Holy Spirit, and His authority from maintaining intimacy with the Father. At the close of His ministry, He gave His followers the Holy Spirit (Luke 24:49), the source of His power, and told them to keep close to Him (John 15:1-17)
- ▶ And don't forget – John 14:12 – Jesus said, "Those who believe in me will do what I do – yes, they will do even greater things, because I am going to the Father."

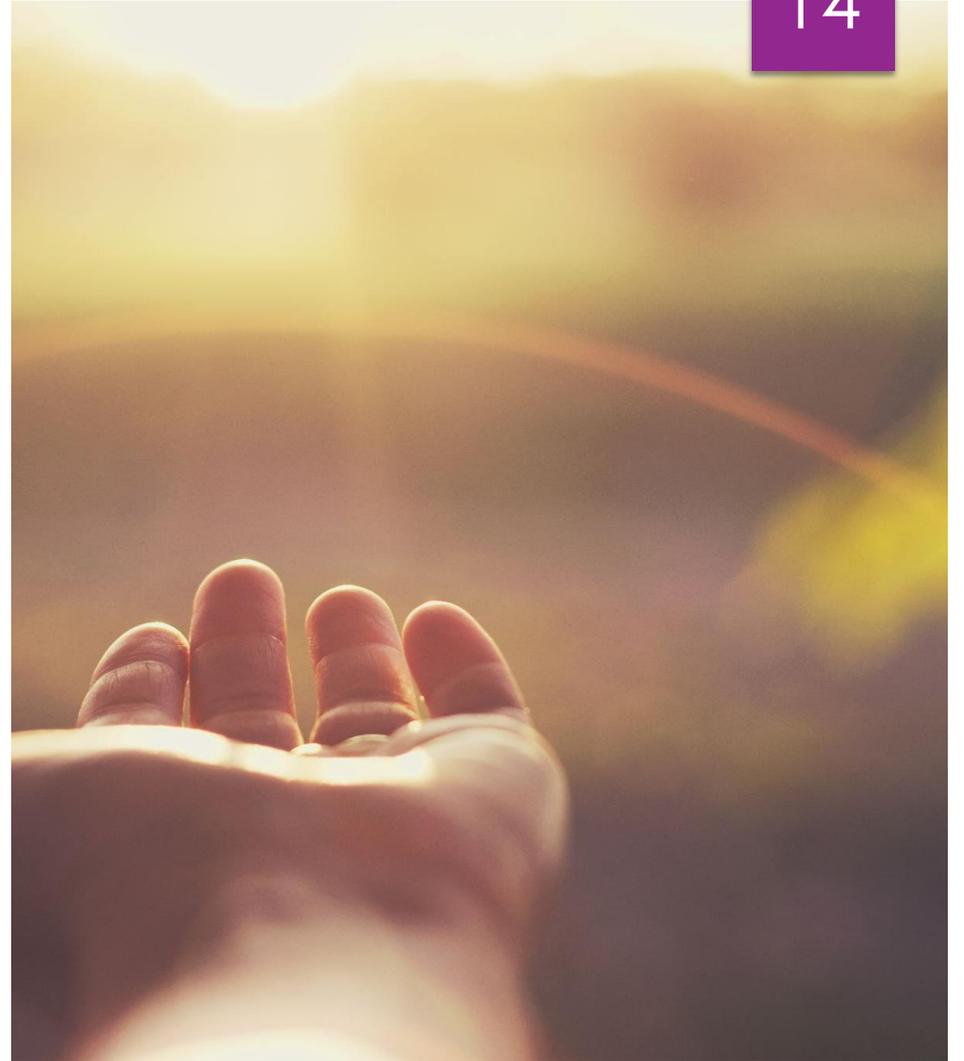
Ground Rules for Using Our Authority

1. **We do not own it.** It is entrusted to us by God and we are to manage it – be faithful to the Master in the way we use what He has trusted us with. It is a precious gift loaned to us by our King.
2. **We must use it rightly and for the purposes for which it was given to us.** Jesus is our model! No showing off with it or use for building ourselves up or a ministry. The Key is compassion for a person tormented by the enemy.



Ground Rules for Using Our Authority

3. **We must not presume.** The authority does not give us the right to command God to do our will. We should not presume by making plans and asking God to bless them. Don't assume we alone know the mind of God on any given issue. Don't presume we know his perfect timing.
4. **We are not indispensable.** Yuck! Spiritual pride. UGLY! We must be working out of pure motives for the Glory of God.



We Take Authority to:

Prevent/Preempt things from happening

We take the initiative because we understand the enemy has schemes and plans!

- ▶ Cancel strife and division - loose peace and unity.
- ▶ Pray for eyes to be opened, and ears to be open to the Gospel. Cancel the deaf and dumb spirit!
- ▶ Cleanse your homes

What Our Authority is NOT

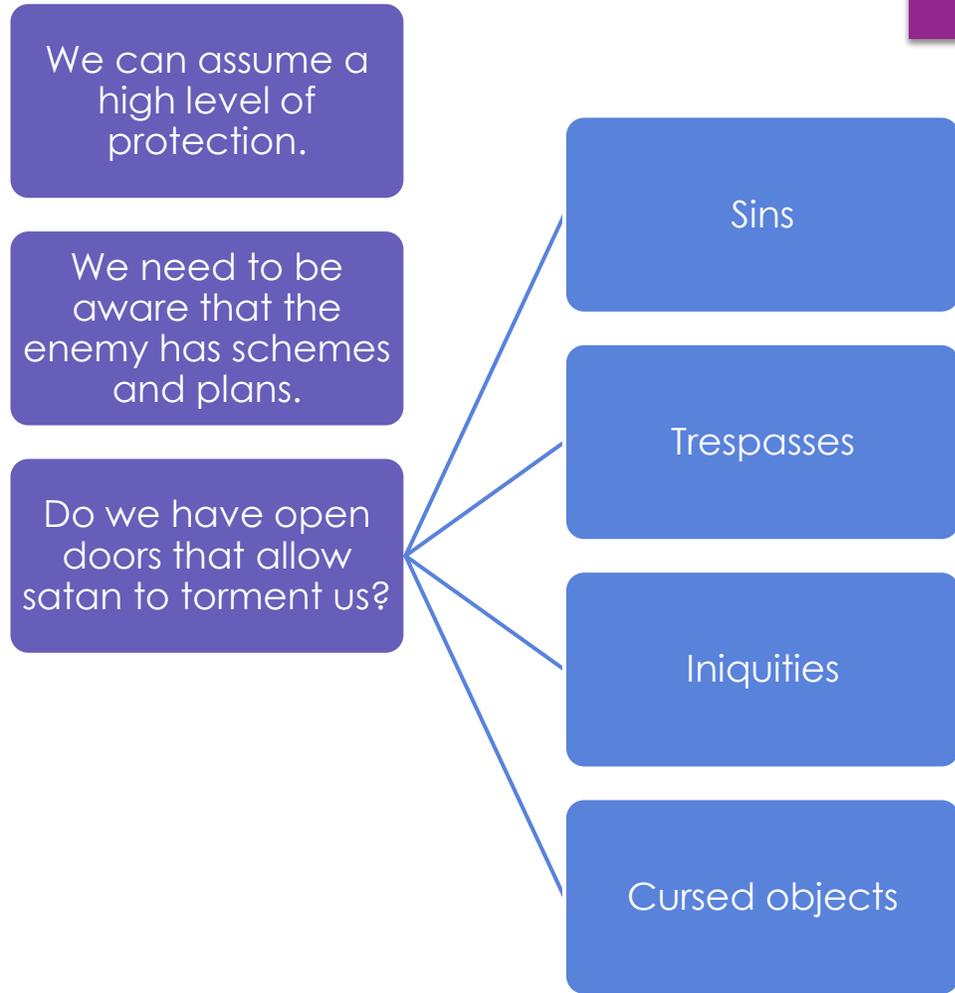
Our feelings

Not a gifting or personality type

All Christians have the right to pray and challenge enemy forces in Jesus name.
This is AUTHORITY!

It has been legally won by Jesus through His victory on the cross and from the tomb where Jesus took from the devil the legal right to the balance of power on earth.

Take Authority For: Protection



Take Authority to: **Bless**



Take Authority to: **Bind and Loose**

19

Jesus used the plural “you”, extending authority to the group and to all His followers down the centuries:

Matthew 18:18 – “What you prohibit on earth will be prohibited in heaven and what you permit on earth will be permitted in heaven.” (Some translations say “bind” and “loose”.)

Close relationship between what happens on earth and what goes on in heaven.

He has given us amazing authority and power by using words.

NO Authority to Curse Others

- ▶ We are not given authority to curse those who curse us.
- ▶ Things do happen when we speak curses over ourselves or others:
 - “This job is killing me.”
 - “I hate my body.”
 - “That boy will be the death of me.”
- ▶ **Break those word curses!** Watch out for them! Our words have power and the enemy can sit back and relax if we are busy cursing ourselves or our country or our loved ones.

Different Kinds of Prayer

**Asking
Prayer**

**Confession
Prayer**

**Thanksgiving
Prayer**

Intercession

**Intimacy
Prayer**

**Authority
Prayer**

Detour Back to the Garden

Genesis
1: 26 -
28

- ▶ Man made in His image
- ▶ Made to rule the earth and everything on it
- ▶ Made to be fruitful and multiply
- ▶ Made to fill the earth and subdue it

22



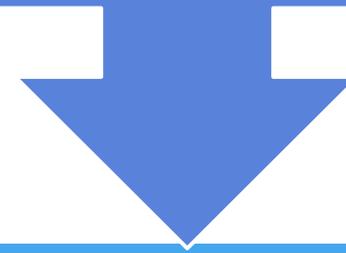
Psalm 8: 3 - 8

“When I consider Thy heavens, the work of Thy fingers, the moon and the stars, which Thou has ordained, What is man, that Thou dost take thought of him? And the son of man, that Thou dost care for him? Yet Thou hast made him a little lower than God, and dost crown him with glory and majesty? Thou dost make him to rule over the works of Thy hands.

Thou has put all things under his feet, all sheep and oxen, and also the beasts of the field, the birds of the heavens, and the fish of the sea, whatever passes through the paths of the seas.”

“Rule” in verse 6 = Hebrew word
mashad

Indicates Adam was God's manager,
steward, go-between or representative.



What does it mean to represent?

. To present
again –
to ***re-present***

"To exhibit the image and
counterpart of, to speak and act
with authority or on the part of; to
be a substitute or agent for.

Psalm 8: 3 - 8

Dutch Sheets, in Intercessory Prayer:

25

“Adam was comparable to or similar to God - so much like God that it was illusionary. God was recognized in Adam, which meant that Adam ‘carried the weight’ here on earth. Adam represented God, **presenting again** His will on the earth. Adam was God's governor, or manager, here. The earth was Adam's assignment - it was under Adam's charge or care. Adam was the watchman or guardian. How things went on planet Earth, for better or worse, depended on Adam and his offspring.”

- Wow! If it remained a paradise, it would be because of mankind.
- If things got messed up, it would be because of mankind.
- Why would God do it this way? Why would He take such a risk then - and now?!

Amazing Responsibility and Amazing Privilege!

"And I searched for a man among them who should build up the wall and stand in the gap for this land, that I should not destroy it. But I found no one. Thus I have poured out My indignation on them. I have consumed them with the fire of My wrath; their way I have brought upon their heads," declares the Lord God. (Ezek 22: 30 – 31)

God decided to do things on earth through His children – He wanted a family, so He made us in His image.



He has chosen to work through us – for better or worse.



Elijah and the rain – Whose idea was the prayer and the rain? And who prayed it out?!



Andrew Murray: "God's giving is inseparably connected with our asking. Only by intercession can that power be brought down from heaven which will enable the Church to conquer the world."

Prayer as Partnership

27

The plan was for His house to be a house of prayer for all nations. That has not changed.

- ▶ “Prayer is essentially a partnership of the redeemed child of God working hand in hand with God toward the realization of His redemptive purposes on earth” - *Jack Hayford*
- ▶ We must understand that our sovereign God has, for his own reasons, so designed this world that much of what is truly His will He makes contingent on the attitudes and actions of human beings. He allows humans to make decisions that can influence history. Human inaction does not nullify the atonement, but human inaction can make the atonement ineffective for lost people." *Peter Wagner*
- ▶ "Prayer is the work!" *Oswald Chambers*

Interceding

Intercede: means to “go or pass between parties with a view to reconcile those who differ or contend; to mediate or make intercessory mediation.”

After the fall, Adam, who was to be God's representative on earth, found himself needing someone to mediate for him. Christ became that representative, intercessor or mediator. He is the ultimate and only go-between. He still functions in that way! He guarantees our access to Father.

John 16:26 tells us that He is not doing our asking for us: *“In that day, you will ask in My name, and I do not say to you that I will request the Father on your behalf.”* He is there to present each of us to the Father as righteous and one of His own.

After the Fall, Man Needed Two Things:

29

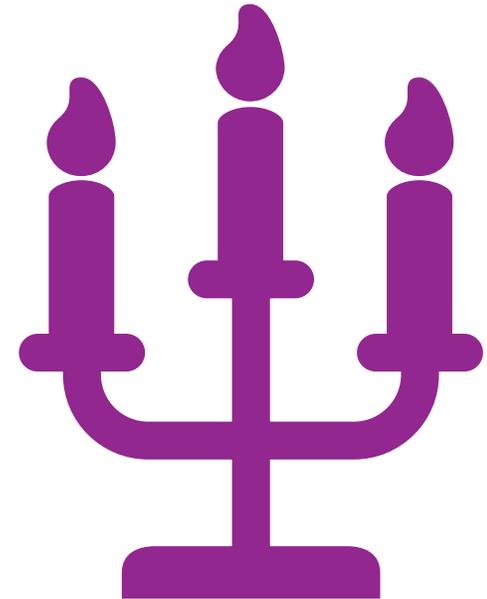
1. To reconcile us back to God to establish headship

2. To separate us from satan to break headship.

- Jesus did both - He is the mediator and the redeemer.
- All of our prayer and intercession are only the work of His intercession. God will not recognize any other intercession. This makes our prayers POWERFUL!
- We don't produce reconciliation, deliverance, victory, etc., but rather we distribute them, as the disciples did the loaves and fishes. Our calling and function is not to replace God but to release Him."
- This liberates us from intimidation and fear! The work is already done. We must ask for the release and application of all these things.

Intercessory Prayer

- ▶ Intercessory prayer: An extension of the ministry of Jesus through His Body, whereby we mediate between God and humanity for the purpose of reconciling the world to Him, or between Satan and humanity for the purpose of enforcing the victory of Jesus. *Dutch Sheets*
- ▶ We are co-laborers with Jesus. He expects us to represent His awesomeness. That's why He describes us as more than conquerors! Christ and His Christ-ians changing things on the earth.
- ▶ Plan A - use supernatural, but ordinary, people who believe in His total victory at Calvary and raise us up as sent ones, or His representatives. Our challenge is not so much to liberate as to believe in the Liberator, to heal as to believe in the Healer!



Accountability to God

We are responsible to determine His will, not our own personal desires.

"The measure of one's knowledge of God's will is the measure of his delegated authority."

Watchman Nee

We are stewards of His authority just as we are stewards of the land or of the wealth.

As we obey Him, we become more like Him in character and in our relationships with those under our authority. We learn to focus on Him, not on the gifts. We stand for the same things the One we obey stands for. When others see us, they should be in touch with Jesus.

Accountability to Other Believers



We are not lone rangers. We need feedback and wisdom.



Examine the Fruit - is it good or bad? Are people being helped, healed, disciplined? Are lives changing? Are people doing the good works they were called to do?



If we fear God, we do not need to fear anything else. Let the fear of displeasing God keep us accountable and able to work in freedom. Our love for Him should make us want to please Him!