



## Authority of the Believer

The Book of Acts

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June 27-28, 2020

*Luke 10:17-20 (NKJV)*

*17 Then the seventy returned with joy, saying, "Lord, even the demons are subject to us in Your name."  
18 And He said to them, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. 19 Behold, I give you the authority to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you. 20 Nevertheless do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rather rejoice because your names are written in heaven."*

### **SPIRITUAL AUTHORITY IS REAL AND ISN'T A GAME!**

*Acts 19:13-16 (NLT)*

*13 A group of Jews was traveling from town to town casting out evil spirits. They tried to use the name of the Lord Jesus in their incantation, saying, "I command you in the name of Jesus, whom Paul preaches, to come out!" 14 Seven sons of Sceva, a leading priest, were doing this. 15 But one time when they tried it, the evil spirit replied, "I know Jesus, and I know Paul, but who are you?" 16 Then the man with the evil spirit leaped on them, overpowered them, and attacked them with such violence that they fled from the house, naked and battered.*

### **THE THREE DOMAINS OF GODLY AUTHORITY**

#### **1. YOU ONLY HAVE AUTHORITY TO THE DEGREE YOU ARE \_\_\_\_\_ AUTHORITY**

*James 4:7 (NIV)*

*7 Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.*

**God is a god of order. Satan is a god of disorder, chaos and confusion.**

*1 Corinthians 14:40 (NKJV)*

*40 Let all things be done decently and in order.*

*1 Corinthians 14:33 (NKJV)*

*33 For God is not the author of confusion but of peace, as in all the churches of the saints.*

*Romans 13:1 (NKJV)*

*1 Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God.*

## ALL AUTHORITY IS DELEGATED AUTHORITY

- God's Divine Authority is supreme. (Mat. 28:18).
- Authority in the home. (Eph. 5:23; 6:1; 1 Pet. 3:1).
- Civil authority. City, State & Federal. (Rom. 13:1-7; 1 Pet. 2:13-17).
- Spiritual authority. (Heb. 13:17; 1 Cor. 11:3).
- Institutional authority. Private and public spaces.
- Personal individual authority. (Gen. 1:26).

## ALWAYS BE SUBMISSIVE, BUT NOT ALWAYS OBEDIENT

*Acts 5:29 (NLT)*

*29 But Peter and the apostles replied, "We must obey God rather than any human authority."*

## 2. AUTHORITY IS TO HELP, NOT \_\_\_\_\_

*2 Corinthians 10:8 (NLT)*

*8 I may seem to be boasting too much about the authority given to us by the Lord. But our authority builds you up; it doesn't tear you down. So I will not be ashamed of using my authority.*

Authority is God-ordained, but authoritarianism and raw power, in almost all forms, is dangerous.  
—Dr. James C. Dobson (Focus on the Family)

## 3. \_\_\_\_\_ AUTHORITY

*Romans 5:17c (AMP)*

*"...reign as kings in life through the one Man Jesus Christ (the Messiah, the Anointed One).*

*Genesis 1:26, 28 (NKJV)*

*26 Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion..."*

*28 Then God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion..."*

We have divine authority over—

### SIN

*Romans 6:6, 12 (NLT)*

*6 We know that our old sinful selves were crucified with Christ so that sin might lose its power in our lives. We are no longer slaves to sin. 12 Do not let sin control the way you live; do not give in to sinful desires.*

### SATAN

*Matthew 4:10 (NLT)*

*10 "Get out of here, Satan," Jesus told him. "For the Scriptures say, 'You must worship the LORD your God and serve only him.'"*

## **SICKNESS**

*Mark 16:15-18 (NKJV)*

*15 And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. 16 He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned. 17 And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues; 18 they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover."*

*James 5:14-15 (NKJV)*

*14 Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. 15 And the prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven.*

**ANSWERS:**

- 1. UNDER**
- 2. HURT**
- 3. KINGDOM**