



Sunday February 06, 2022
The Believer's Authority (Part-1)

OUR ADVERSARY THE DEVIL

1 Peter 5:8-9

8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.

9 Resist him, steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world.

We know we have an adversary. He is the devil who comes to steal, kill and destroy (John 10:10).

The adversary would come against us in several ways:

Personal Attacks

The enemy attacks us at a personal level in our mind, with thoughts and imaginations attempting to tempt us, cause fear, doubt, anxiety, etc. etc. Sometimes, the attacks could be against our bodies.

Circumstances

The enemy may work through circumstances and situations to hinder, cause confusion, discord, trouble, financial problems, etc.

And there are other areas of demonic activity, that we are not addressing now.

NOT EVERYTHING BAD IS OF THE DEVIL, BECAUSE...



In discuss spiritual authority and what the devil does, we do not want to leave the impression that everything bad is of the devil. While the devil and his demons definitely come to steal, kill and destroy, we must also understand the impact of people's choices and actions.

We must take responsibility for our own choices and actions.

A, Bad things happen when we make bad choices or do bad things.

B, Bad things happen when other people make bad choices and do bad things.

C, Bad things happen because of the natural process of decay. Example: if a part in a vehicle falls apart, it is most likely due to wear and tear.

OUR OBJECTIVE

In this sermon series the objective is to remind us as believers of the spiritual authority vested in us; what we have authority over; and how to exercise spiritual authority. We desire for each of us to recognize when the enemy is at work, and then use our spiritual authority to overthrow what he is attempting to do. We will develop our understanding of our spiritual authority over the coming weeks.

FIVE DIMENSIONS TO OUR SPIRITUAL AUTHORITY

We mention here five dimensions to our spiritual authority – that is, we have spiritual authority as believers because of these five truths. We will elaborate on each as we progress through this sermon series.

- 1) Redemptive Authority : Our Authority Because of Christ's Triumph
- 2) Inherited Authority : Our Authority As Sons & Daughters of God
- 3) Positional Authority : Our Authority In Christ
- 4) Delegated Authority : Our Authority As Christ's Representatives
- 5) Empowered Authority : Our Authority Through The Anointing

REDEMPTIVE AUTHORITY : OUR AUTHORITY BECAUSE OF CHRIST'S TRIUMPH

Adam was created by God and given a place of dominion on the earth. In the Fall, he lost his place of dominion and became subservient to the devil.

When Christ came to redeem us from the Fall, He dealt a crushing blow to satan and his demonic hosts. He did this on our behalf and for us. Jesus came to destroy the works of the devil (1 John 3:8).



The Cross was a place of great triumph. On the Cross, through His death, Jesus disarmed satan and his hosts. Consider these Scriptures:

Colossians 2:15

Having disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it.

The preceding verse 14, ends talking about the Cross. And verse 15 continues to declare what Jesus did on the Cross. Jesus disarmed demonic powers and triumphed over them.

Hebrews 2:14

Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil,

Jesus destroyed the devil, rendering him powerless.

Isaiah 53:12

Therefore I will divide Him a portion with the great, **And He shall divide the spoil with the strong, Because He poured out His soul unto death, And He was numbered with the transgressors, And He bore the sin of many, And made intercession for the transgressors.**

In His redemptive work Jesus Christ conquered satan and all the powers of hell. He then divided the spoil with us, the strong ones. So literally, we walk in His triumph. We walk in His victory!

Now look at:

Colossians 1:12-14

12 giving thanks to the Father who has qualified us to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the light.

13 He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love,

14 in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins.

We are qualified to partake of all that God has given to us.

In redeeming us, God has taken us out from being under the power of darkness and has placed us in His own Kingdom. As redeemed people we belong to a greater Kingdom. We walk in what Christ has accomplished for us on the Cross.



Romans 5:17

For if by the one man's offense death reigned through the one, much more those who receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ.

In redemption, we have received God's abundant grace and the gift of righteousness. This has put us in a place where we "reign in life" through Jesus Christ. We have dominion through Jesus, over everything that Adam brought us under.

The very fact that we have been redeemed has placed us in a position of authority over the enemy.

IF SATAN HAS BEEN DEFEATED, WHY DOES HE APPEAR SO STRONG?

Why and how does the devil still cause havoc in believer's lives?

We have addressed this previously but serves well to remind us of this here.

First of all a lack of knowledge – when believers don't know the Word of God, this gives the enemy a big advantage. **Hosea 4:6** states that God's people are destroyed because of a lack of knowledge. **Isaiah 5:13** states that God's people are gone into captivity for a lack of knowledge.

Next, Satan's Tactics:

#1, Mind Games – uses lying and deceiving thoughts and imaginations.

#2, Open Doors – comes through entry points. Continued sin is an entry point for the enemy.

#3, Violations And Intrusions – attempts to come in as a trespasser.

RESIST FIRM IN THE FAITH

1 Peter 5:8-9

8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.

9 Resist him, steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world.

So, as redeemed people we must "resist" – put up resistance when the enemy comes against us. And the Bible teaches us that when we resist the devil, he will flee from us (James 4:7).



We will develop this further in the coming weeks. We will uncover other dimensions of our spiritual authority. We will get into some details on what do we have authority over. And learn how to exercise spiritual authority.

We must exercise our spiritual authority if we are going to walk in the benefits of what God has provided.

Every believer has spiritual authority and must exercise their authority.

SALVATION CALL

If you ask, does God love me? We can tell you what the Bible says: John 3:16, Romans 5:8

If you ask, how can I have my sins forgiven? We can tell you what the Bible says: Acts 10:43; 1 John 2:2,12

If you ask, what is the way to God? We can tell you what the Bible says: John 14:6

If you ask, how can I become a child of God? We can tell you what the Bible says: John 1:12

If you ask, where can I find salvation? We can tell you what the Bible says: Acts 4:12

If you ask, what must I do to experience salvation? We can tell you what the Bible says: Acts 16:30-31

As an act of your own free choice, we invite you to make this decision to follow Jesus.

SUPERNATURAL MINISTRY TIME

Minister as the Spirit leads



LIFE GROUP STUDY GUIDE

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The is a simple guide for use in Life Group discussions. Our objective is to focus on the application of the Sunday sermon - how each one is becoming a doer of the Word and building their life on God's Holy Word. The Life Group meeting would normally last for 2 hours. Each Life Group would have up to 12-15 people.

Preparation

To prepare for the Life Group meeting, you can listen to the Sermon Key Points (sermon summary in five minutes) or the full-length Sunday sermon. You can also review the Sunday Sermon notes. All these are available in the "All Peoples Church Bangalore" mobile App or online at our [sermons page](#) . Pray for the Life Group meeting and invite the work and ministry of the Holy Spirit.

Welcome

The Life Group meeting may commence with a time of prayer, worship, and a fun activity.

LISTEN to God's Word

Read the following Scripture reference: *1 Peter 5:8-9; Colossians 2:15; Hebrews 2:14; Isaiah 53:12*

INVESTIGATE God's Word Together

Please discuss a few of these together, giving time for people to share their insights. We encourage each one individually to make notes of their personal learning during the Group discussion.

- 1, Why is it important for believers to know their spiritual authority?*
- 2, Discuss "Redemptive Authority" – the authority we have because of Christ's finished work and triumph on the Cross?*
- 3, Ignorance puts satan at an advantage. But why are believers still unaware of the spiritual authority that belongs to us?*



If time permits, each one can take a few (3 minutes max) to share one or two key learning and how they see themselves applying it into their specific life situations. Encourage each one to participate and share.

FELLOWSHIP by sharing your life and spiritual journey

Each one takes a few (3 minutes max) to share anything from their walk with God, something God has been teaching them, a testimony of answered prayer or a specific challenge that they would like prayer for. Encourage each one to participate and share.

ENCOURAGE each other by praying and ministering to one another

Get into small groups of two or three and take turns to thank God and pray for each other in the light of what was learnt today. Listen to the Holy Spirit. Expect the gifts of the Holy Spirit to flow bringing healing, releasing miracles, prophecy, etc.

Regroup and pray together for:

- 1, families to be protected and strengthened*
- 2, a mighty outpouring of God's Holy Spirit on us as a church and through us to bless many others in our city and nation. Nothing but a mighty work of God's Spirit can change our city and nation.*
- 3, for the BUILD TO IMPACT project - for God's hand to guide us through the land search and acquisition process, and for finances to be more than enough to get this project done.*

Close by thanking God together.



USEFUL RESOURCES



Watch our online Sunday Church service live stream every Sunday at 10:30am (Indian Time, GMT+5:30). Spirit filled, anointed worship, Word and ministry for healing, miracles, and deliverance.

YOUTUBE: <https://youtube.com/allpeopleschurchbangalore>

WEBSITE: <https://apcwo.org/live>

Our other websites and free resources:

CHURCH: <https://apcwo.org>

FREE SERMONS: <https://apcwo.org/resources/sermons>

FREE BOOKS: <https://apcwo.org/books/english>

DAILY DEVOTIONALS: <https://apcwo.org/resources/daily-devotional>

JESUS CHRIST: <https://examiningjesus.com>

BIBLE COLLEGE: <https://apcbiblecollege.org>

E-LEARNING: <https://apcbiblecollege.org/elearn>

COUNSELING: <https://chrysalislife.org>

MUSIC: <https://apcmusic.org>

MINISTERS FELLOWSHIP: <https://pamfi.org>

CHURCH APP: <https://apcwo.org/app>

CHURCHES: <https://apcwo.org/ministries/churches>

SERMON BRIEF

As believers in Jesus Christ, we have spiritual authority over satan and his demonic hosts. We have authority vested in us to reign in life, over situations and circumstances and over all that Adam brought us under. In this sermon series we learn about our spiritual authority, what we have authority over and how to exercise spiritual authority.

KEYWORDS

believer's authority, spiritual authority, dominion, delegated authority

REFERENCES/CITATIONS

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