

# Summer of Spiritual Growth: The Authority of the Believer 1 August 15, 2016 | mediaatvictory.com

God has given the believer authority over the world, the devil, and his/her flesh.

This authority must be exercised by grace through faith.

If you don't know you have this authority, it's as good as not having it.

God gives authority to Adam to reign on earth.

**Genesis 1:26-28** – <sup>26</sup> Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." <sup>27</sup> So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. <sup>28</sup> Then God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth."

Adam delivers that authority to Satan, and he becomes the "god of this world."

**II Corinthians 4:4** – Satan, who is the god of this world, has blinded the minds of those who don't believe. They are unable to see the glorious light of the Good News. They don't understand this message about the glory of Christ, who is the exact likeness of God.

**Luke 4:5-8** – <sup>5</sup> The devil led him up to a high place and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. <sup>6</sup> And he said to him, "I will give you all their authority and splendor, for it has been given or delivered to me, and I can give it to anyone I want to. <sup>7</sup> So if you worship me, it will all be yours." <sup>8</sup> Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Worship the Lord your God and serve him only.' "

**Matthew 8:28-29** – <sup>28</sup> When He had come to the other side, to the country of the Gergesenes, there met Him two demon-possessed men, coming out of the tombs, exceedingly fierce, so that no one could pass that way. <sup>29</sup> And suddenly they cried out, saying, "What have we to do with You, Jesus, You Son of God? Have You come here to torment us before the time?"

**Revelation 20:10** – The devil, who deceived them, was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone where the beast and the false prophet are. And they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.

Prophecy of Return of Authority to Man:

**Genesis 3:15** – And there will be war between you and the woman and between your seed and her seed: by Him will your head be crushed and by you his foot will be wounded.

The Last Adam – Jesus:

**Matthew 28:18-20** – <sup>18</sup> Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. <sup>19</sup> Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup> and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

**Luke 10:19** – I have given you authority [exousia] to trample on snakes and scorpions and to overcome all the power [dunamis] of the enemy; nothing will harm you.

There is a difference between “power” and “authority.”

**Ephesians 1:19-23** – <sup>19</sup> and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power <sup>20</sup> which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, <sup>21</sup> 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. <sup>22</sup> And He put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to the church, <sup>23</sup> which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.

We are learning our full identity is found in Him.

We possess authority because we are:

- Born again in Him
- Seated with Him
- Raised together with Him
- Accepted in Him
- Completed in Him
- Righteous in Him