

# Summer of Spiritual Growth: The Authority of the Believer 2 August 21, 2016 | mediaatvictory.com

**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.

**Colossians 2:13-15** – <sup>13</sup> And you, being dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He has made alive together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses, <sup>14</sup> having wiped out the handwriting of requirements that was against us, which was contrary to us. And He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross. <sup>15</sup> Having disarmed and spoiled principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it.

**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.

The authority of Christ has been delegated to the Church.

If we don't exercise that authority, it won't be used.

**Ephesians 2:4-6** – <sup>4</sup> But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, <sup>5</sup> even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), <sup>6</sup> and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus.

You are raised and seated together with Christ!

Knowing you have authority and knowing how to exercise that authority are two different things. You must exercise this authority.

**James 4:6-8** – <sup>6</sup> That is why Scripture says: "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble." <sup>7</sup> Submit yourselves, then, to God. <sup>8</sup> Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

**I Peter 5:6-9** – <sup>6</sup> Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time, <sup>7</sup> casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you. <sup>8</sup> Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. <sup>9</sup> Resist him, steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world.

The primary way in which Satan defeats the believer is in his or her thought life!

**II Corinthians 10:3-6** – <sup>3</sup> For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh. <sup>4</sup> For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, <sup>5</sup> casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience or authority of Christ, <sup>6</sup> being ready to give punishment to whatever is against his authority, after you have made it clear that you are completely under his control or authority.