



Wednesday Night BI – Heritage of Faith **Lesson 8 - Part 1**

Authority of the Believer

Lesson Introduction:

Genesis 1:26 *“And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air; and over the cattle, And over all the earth, and over very creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.”*

Man was created to have authority. The first thing God did after He made man in His image, was grant him authority. God gave man authority in the natural world as well as the spiritual.

1. Man is a spirit, he has a soul (mind, will and emotions) and he lives in a body. He was created in God’s image - a triune being (Genesis 1:26).
2. Man has authority in the earth because he has a physical body made from the earth – he is a spirit living in a body.
3. He has an intellectual capacity that is above the animals.

Adam lost sight of the authority God had given him and walked away from it when he bowed his knee to Satan. Jesus went to the cross to buy back, with His own life, the dominion and authority that God originally gave Adam.

I. Authority is Transmitted and Released by Words

Adam was created in the image and likeness of God and God is a Faith Being. He used words of authority to create man. Faith is the parent force to everything in this planet (Hebrews 11:1). God communicated His faith and released it in words. He creates with His Word. The Holy Spirit uses the substance of faith in the words to cause the desired result to come into physical manifestation.

This earth and everything in it came into being by words (Hebrews 11:3). Authority is transferred and carried out by words.

- A. Matthew 28:18-19 God has invested authority in the Body of Christ. It is not for use in heaven. The authority of the Lord Jesus Christ has been invested in the Body of Christ to operate here in the earth.
1. Man has been given the ability to choose and speak words at his own will. Authority is communicated by words. Our confession is one of authority.
 2. Mark 11:23-24 Jesus said to speak to the mountains and tell them to be removed.
- B. 1 Corinthians 15:54 What He did in you when you were born again is greater than what Satan did in Adam. Death has been swallowed up in Life.
- C. 2 Corinthians 5:17, 21 You have been made a new creation in Christ Jesus. You are not self-righteous, but the righteousness of God in Christ.
- D. Romans 5:12 Adam committed high treason, giving his authority to Satan, as an act of his will. Satan's nature was lodged in his spirit, and passed down throughout all generations.
- E. Hebrews 2:14; Philippians 2:8; John 10:18; Galatians 3:13-14 Jesus knew He had to go to the cross to legally obtain man's redemption and give him back his authority.
1. Jesus passed the test that Adam failed.
 2. Jesus went to hell and paid the price for man's sins.
 3. He took back the authority that Adam had lost and carried His blood into the holy of holies to ratify our new covenant and purge man's sins.

II. Joint Heirs with Jesus

- A. Romans 8:17; Ephesians 2:6 We are joint-heirs, seated with Jesus in a heavenly place of authority.
- B. 2 Corinthians 5:17 You are not what you used to be – you have authority in Christ Jesus!
1. The authority given to the believer is part of the redemptive work that Jesus did in man's behalf. He became like man so man could become like Him.
 2. What you were before salvation has nothing to do with who you are now.
- C. Colossians 2:10,15 A born-again man defeated hell. You've been reborn with the same power.
- D. 1 John 3:8 The reason God sent Jesus into the earth was to destroy the work of Satan and give back to man the authority he lost through Adam's transgression.

E. Ephesians 2:10; 1 Corinthians 15:22 You are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus.

1. It was the creative power of God that worked in you when you accepted Jesus as Lord.
2. You have been made alive in Christ.
3. The same power that put Jesus at the right hand of God put you at His right hand.
4. You are a joint heir with the King of kings.

Small Group Activity: (Approximately 15-20 minutes)

1. Split your class into groups of 4-5
2. Read the following 3 scriptures and make a list of the areas where a born-again man has authority:
 - Genesis 2:7
 - Mark 11:23-24
 - Ephesians 2:6 (AMP)
3. Write a confession using scriptures that speak of your authority.