



Wednesday Night BI – Heritage of Faith **Lesson 8 - Part 2**

Authority of the Believer

Lesson Introduction:

As believers, we can take advantage of the authority that has been given to us through our union with Jesus! Hebrews 1:3 says, “He is upholding all things by the Word of His power.” If you want to be upheld, get on the Word of God! Make up your mind to speak only what God has said.

When you learn to operate the way He does, you will experience the victory and success He provided for you. Jesus has made the born-again believer His representative in the earth.

God’s creative power is inside you. So choose words of faith and speak your authority. It’s yours for the taking!

Romans 8:29 God predestined us to be conformed to the image of His Son.

God sees you in Christ, in His image. How do you see yourself?

God sees you through the blood of the covenant. On the inside, you are the express image of Jesus.

Seeing you should be the same as seeing Jesus:

1. It is commonly understood that God has authority and that Jesus has authority.
2. In the light of God’s Word, we see that Jesus gave His body the same authority He has.
3. Jesus came to the earth to meet man on his level.

Jesus came to pay Adam’s price for high treason. He came to reconcile man back to God. He defeated Satan in hell, took from him the authority that Adam had given him, and was raised to the right hand of God.

The universe was put into the hands of a born-again, resurrected, glorified man. He said, “All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth (Matthew 28:18). He conferred this same authority on the believer and gave him the power of attorney to use His Name.

Hebrews 1:3 is a picture of Jesus after He was raised from the dead. “Who being the brightness of his glory and the express image of his person...” Seeing Jesus is seeing God. Jesus is the express, absolute image of God. Everything in God is expressed again in Jesus - every likeness and every detail.

As born-again believers, we have authority; we are in His image. Meditation upon this will give you an inner image so you can see yourself as God sees you! You will be able to go to the throne of grace boldly (Hebrews 4:16). God is looking at you through the blood covenant. He looks at the inside of a man – upon the heart. He sees us in Christ, in His image.

Begin seeing yourself as God sees you – in Christ, having authority – and start walking in it!

I. Seated with Christ

- A. Ephesians 1:21-23 All things are under Jesus’ feet. As part of the body of Christ, all things are under your feet, too. The same spiritual qualities and the same authority inside Him are inside you.
- B. Ephesians 1:3 You have already been blessed with all spiritual blessings because you are seated with Him in heavenly places.
- C. Ephesians 2:6 In Christ you have been raised to the same high place of authority where Jesus sits.
- D. 1 John 4:17 You are His image expressed to this world.
 - 1. Jesus is not sick, in poverty, in fear or under pressure. His authority, His Name, His position with God have already been given to you.
 - 2. Prayer becomes uncomplicated when you know who you are because you see yourself as God sees you.
- D. Colossians 2: 9-10 The fullness of the Godhead is residing in the believer. Whoever is joined to the Lord is one spirit with Him.

II. The Authority in the Name of Jesus

- A. Philippians 2:9-10 The power behind the Name of Jesus is the power of Almighty God.
- B. John 16:23 What we ask in His Name is given us!
1. Acts 3:1-8 The Name of Jesus is still as powerful today as it was when Peter spoke it.
- C. Mark 16:17-20 Jesus gave the church authority to use His Name to bring salvation and deliverance to all the world. This Name is a weapon to use to enforce Satan's defeat.
1. Jesus' Name can do anything He can do. He is totally unlimited.
 2. Revelation 19:13 All the authority of God's Word is in that Name, and it is yours to use as a new creation in Him!
 3. You represent Jesus! You can walk in authority in His Name because you are His representative. When this becomes a reality to you, sin will lose its grip on you.
 4. See yourself in Christ, as part of His Body, with everything under your feet. Instead of ignoring problems, you will conquer them with the authority He has given you. The battle is the Lord's and the victory is yours!
 5. Stand in His victory, using the Word, fighting the good fight of faith. When you speak the Word in faith, it is the same power as if Almighty God Himself said it, and circumstances will have to come in line.

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 how you can express Jesus to this world:
 - 1 John 4:17
 - Mark 16:17-18
 - Colossians 2:9-10
3. Discuss what this means to the Body of Christ and to each of us as believers.