

Three Power Authorizations

Today's disciples of Jesus Christ can develop their own personal use of the three power authorizations that Jesus Christ gave His first disciples.

Brothers and sisters, please look at the amazing authority and power over the enemy that Jesus Christ gave to the apostles, the seventy-two others, the apostles' own people, and those who believe! In addition, realize that today (right now) you and I are in the same two categories of Christ's disciples as were the seventy-two others and those who believe. We are not the twelve apostles of Christ, but we are like the seventy-two others.

To the apostles, Jesus said: "He gave them power and authority to drive out all demons and to cure diseases, and he sent them out to preach the kingdom of God and to heal the sick ... so they set out and went from village to village, preaching the gospel and healing people everywhere (Luke 9:1-2, 6 NIV). "They went out and preached that people should repent. They drove out many demons and anointed many sick people with oil and healed them" (Mark 6:12-13 NIV).

To the seventy-two others, Jesus said, "The Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them two by two ... The seventy-two returned with joy and said, 'Lord, even the demons submit to us in your name.' He replied, 'I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. I have given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and to overcome all the power of the enemy; nothing will harm you'" (Luke 10:1, 17-20 NIV).

About the apostles' own people, God's Word says, on their release, Peter and John went back to their own people and reported ... they raised their voices together in prayer to God. "Sovereign Lord" ... Now, Lord, consider their threats and enable your servants to speak your word with great boldness. Stretch out your hand to heal and perform miraculous signs and wonders through the name of your holy servant Jesus. After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly. (Acts 4:23-31 NIV)

About another group of God's people called those who believe, the Word also says "And these signs will accompany those who believe: In my name they will drive out demons; they will pick up snakes with their hands; and when they drink deadly poison, it will not hurt them at all; they will place their hands on sick people, and they will get well ... The disciples went out and preached everywhere, and the Lord worked with them and confirmed his word by the signs that accompanied it" (Mark 16:15-20 NIV).

1. Preach the Kingdom of God

The first authorization is to preach the kingdom of God. However, remember, I am not talking about you becoming a pastor, missionary, evangelist, etc. No, the truth is that we each preach something in our present lives. We cannot dismiss our personal area of influence. Each of us has one. Do you have that understanding? Either you are fulfilling righteousness or unrighteousness. There is no escaping it. The way you live out your life does affect others.

Therefore, a more realistic way of speaking about this is to say that preaching the kingdom of God means that you only use words about the Kingdom of God, if you have to. In truth, the way you live God's truth is your preaching. You must attempt to become the living Word of God yourself.

Your correct aim is to attempt to be so much like Jesus that you demonstrate the truth and authority of Jesus Christ in your workplace. You see, today you have the opportunity and obligation to live out the words. Our work-place and home-place actions, do our preaching!

Your day-to-day authority does not come in preaching or saying words. No, your authority comes when you deliberately deny yourself and respond in the way Jesus Christ would at that given moment. In addition, you have already learned that you must be walking in soul rest and listening for the still, small voice of the Holy Spirit to do this. When your own Holy Spirit-led life obeys Jesus' commands and stands upon His promises and demonstrates His character traits to those around you, it brings about very significant results.

Paul said to think and do "whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable-if anything is excellent or praiseworthy" (Philippians 4:8 NIV).

Let us be sure that you get this point. You have Christ's authorization to be an example of the living Word of God wherever you are. You are to become like Jesus, who went about doing good. Christ expects you to do it through His Holy Spirit within you. The demons hope that you do not do it. The Holy Spirit and angels are ready to assist you so you can live out the Word of God daily.

2. Stop All Demonic Activity

You have authorization to stop all demonic activity that comes as defense resistance to your presenting God's Word where you live and work. You should expect conflict from the Enemy, who does not want you to express God's love and truth. The hindering demonic activity will manifest itself in many ways. The fact is that most people around you do not want you to be

“salt and light” or illustrate the love and Word of God. No, our fallen society, which is ruled by the evil prince of the world, will rise up all kinds of obstruction.

Nevertheless, Disciples of Christ learn that it is their duty to bring a halt to all such hindrances by using the authorization given to them in Jesus Christ’s name. Usually your duty is not to cast out demons the way we read about Jesus doing it in demonized people, though we don’t cower at these opportunities. No, more frequently, it is bringing order, bringing peace, or bringing quietness to your circle of influence in the name of Jesus Christ.

In your home you stop the noisiness of the Enemy that is coming through your kids, your spouse, your neighbor, the TV, DVDs, social media, radio, etc. His order, peace, and quietness come after you get these hindering things out of the way.

At work the people right next to you might be demonized people, but the fact is that you have the spiritual ability and authorization to cause that stuff to go away and fall to your side. In your little workspace or cubicle, you can still move and work in God’s peace. During these situations you project the truth of God in your own surroundings. You stop the demonic from hindering you from living and preaching the truthful Word of God by exercising authorization. Be a thermostat and not a thermometer. A thermometer merely adjusts itself to the surrounding environment. A thermostat adjusts the environment to the to the pleasure of the Master.

3. Confirmations of God’s Miraculous Signs and Wonders

Thirdly, you have authorization to ask Almighty God for unusual confirmation about your life labor (lived-out truth). These are signs and wonders. A common result of this authorization will be people describing the peace, calmness, or excellence they have experienced. Start listening for their comments. Usually they do not know why they are saying these things. Sometimes this gives you a chance to explain your own source of success.

Here is what happens.

Something significant from your labor will have happened, that affirmed notable results. These signs and wonders attract people’s attention to what happened through you. Your successful results, point to God without you saying anything about Him.

In addition, when your daily assignment calls for a supernatural miracle of God, then approach Him with confidence and expect His kingdom to come to earth as it is in heaven. Because you are a pure vessel in agreement with the Word and Spirit of God, miracles will happen. The supernatural kingdom of God should not be the exception; rather it should become the norm in the daily life of a Christ follower.