

## FAITH & AUTHORITY

Permitting God, Denying Satan

### I. By His own choice, God confined himself to operate inside the boundaries of His Word

- A. If God gave man dominion over the Earth, then if God wants to do something in the Earth He has to get permission from the man that He gave the dominion to
- B. He's God, He can do anything He wants? Is that the truth?
  - 1. Psalm 89:34-He can't alter or change His word, He has to work inside the boundaries of His word and therefore by His own choice He does not have the right to do anything He wants
  - 2. *Authority* means lawful-It is not lawful for God (He does not have the authority/right) to override your will because in doing so he violates His Word; It is outside of the legal right of God's word for God to override a man's will
  - 3. In His Word we see God giving man dominion, authority, a will, and the choice and to force a man to do something or to take dominion back from the man would be for God to violate His Word becoming an outlaw
- C. If God gave you the choice and told you to choose then it's not His choice; for Him to make it His choice is for Him to change and violate His Word

### II. God has no right to come into your life and do something that you have not given Him the permission to do; it's not his choice. In your life God can only do what you allow.

- A. You have dominion and if God wants to do something in your life, then He has to get authorization from you to do it
  - 1. Matthew 23:37-38, Psalm 81:11-God was wanting to do something for them, with them, but they wouldn't allow it
    - a. **Do you have so much authority that you can tell God no and then He can't?**
    - b. God will never override your will to perform His will
    - c. EX: I've found that people who don't believe in healing aren't healed even though it's God's will; People who don't believe in prosperity aren't prosperous even though it's God's will; People who don't believe in praying in the Spirit aren't praying in the spirit even though it's God's will
    - d. Even though those things are His will for everybody, He will not make people receive what He wants them to have
  - 2. 2 Chronicles 16:9-God is looking for permission
    - a. God's looking for permission because there is only certain places "HE CAN" (He only has permission in certain places so he's looking for places HE CAN)

- 1) It's not God saying, "I won't show myself strong in your behalf until your heart is perfect towards me or until I have all of you," it's God saying, "I can't show myself strong in your behalf until your heart is perfect towards me or until I have all of you."
  - 2) If God's attitude is "I WON'T," then that's turns your acts into works, but if God's attitude is "I CAN'T," then that turns your acts into faith
  - 3) God's giving you the authority and He CAN'T come in until you get in faith and that includes obeying Him and yielding to Him
- b. Why is God looking for the people with a perfect heart? Because it is those to whom He has the permission to show Himself strong in their behalf
- 1) **The only areas of your life that God can be strong in are those that you have allowed him to through faith and obedience in that area**
  - 2) The more you follow God and live by faith in every area of your life the more you'll see God get involved in every area of your life (Sleep, Finances, Marriage)
  - 3) **The more God has of you, the more permitted He is to be strong in your life-John 14:21**
3. Revelation 3:20-God is saying if you will open the door-grant me permission-I will come in & be your God
- a. IF YOU WILL THEN I CAN because I ALREADY WILL; IF YOU WON'T then I CAN'T even though I WILL TO
  - b. God is knocking because he needs permission because you have the authority
    - 1) Many people say He's God and He can just knock the door down if He wants, but I submit to you if He did that He would be violating His word; So No he has no right to knock the door down
- B. The authority to grant or deny God access lies in the hands of the believer
1. Have you given God the permission through faith and obedience to do what you desire him to do in your life? If God hasn't done something in your life ask yourself the question, "Can He? Have I given Him the permission to do it through faith and obedience?"
    - a. Grace is a person and there is no authorization for grace where there is no faith
  2. Faith and obedience is what grants God permission, not begging, crying, and wishing
    - a. **Faith and obedience is the one thing that God has always required from a man before he could move in that man's life (It started with Noah, went to Abraham and so on)**
    - b. It's the little thing here that you didn't do and the thing over here that God dealt with you about that you didn't take care of that's keeping God out; it's the worry, the depression, the fear that you've been yielding to that's keeping Him out
    - c. Mark 5-Her faith permitted the power of God to do this
      - 1) Her faith was her authority; it unauthorized the devil, it authorized God

- d. Luke 8:49-Jairus' faith and obedience permitted this to happen
- e. Genesis 13-Abraham's faith and obedience permitted God to do great things in His life
- 3. Mark 9:22-23-This situation was not going to be determined by Jesus' might or compassion, but rather by this man's willingness to give Jesus the right ("I have the ability and the compassion do you have the faith and will you give me the right.")
  - a. He's trying to put in the lap of Jesus' ability/might and compassion
  - b. Jesus lays it right back in the lap of his faith
- C. God is doing as much in your life today as you are allowing him to do-Ephesians 3:20
  - 1. What can God do in your life? Many would say anything He wants and they would be wrong
    - a. In your life God does not have the authority/legal right to do anything He wants
    - b. You have the authority to grant or deny him access
  - 2. In this verse we are talking about what God is capable of doing, what He has the ability and resources to do; not what He IS DOING in the life of every believer
    - a. God has the ability and resources and is capable of doing exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think --- THIS IS TRUE
    - b. Is it true that He IS DOING this in the life of every believer? No. Why not? Because this ability of His has to work in harmony with and in accordance with the power that is at work in you
    - c. The administration of His goodness and power in your life is being not being determined by Him, but rather by you because it's according to the power that's at work in you --- You have that authority
  - 3. What God can or can't do is affected by you and something working in you
    - a. God's ability to "do" in your life will be enhanced or limited by the power working in you
      - 1) The power that's working in you is determining what He can do (or can't do)
      - 2) **"He can do whatever he wants." Can he? Or is it according to something**
    - b. The working if His ability is according to something; it's not just according to what He wants
  - 4. **Power**-Moral power and excellence of the soul
    - a. Moral power-The ability to do what is right (in character and in the fight of faith)
    - b. Excellence of the soul-A mind guarded and renewed the word, Emotions held in check not moving you away from the Word, Choices everyday in line with the Word
      - 1) It's not perfection, it's the perfectness of heart that strives for perfection --- It's honor
    - c. The soul is the battlegrounds of faith and to operate in excellence of the soul is to win the faith fight on that level and when you do God has permission
    - d. This excellent soul, where your faith is high, your heart is soft, your life is yielded is where God has permission and he's able to do according to this

5. **Many people are wanting God to ignore His word and do things anyway (Many are saying don't pay attention to what's going on in me and just do it anyway)**
  - a. 3 John 2-God can't prosper you above or beyond the level of the prosperity of your soul---God is getting His instructions for your life from you, by looking at your soul
  - b. Proverbs 23:7-God can't make you something outside that you aren't inside and can't give you something outside that you don't have inside; he's limited to what you have inside
  - c. John 15:7-People want to ignore the first part and go to begging
6. Numbers 13,14:26-35-God wanted that generation in the promise land; that was His will and although he possessed the might to get them in, He had no right to do something for them that they wouldn't give Him permission to do
  - a. **Their soul was not excellent, but Joshua and Caleb's were**
  - b. The only ones with the authority to keep them out of the promise land was them
  - c. **Did the devil keep them out of the promise land?**

### III. Satan has no right to come into your life and do something that you don't grant him permission to do

- A. 1 Peter 5:8-Satan is looking for somebody to devour so it is clear and apparent that he cannot just devour anybody that he chooses to devour
  1. The verse did not say Satan is walking around and destroys the lives of whoever he wants because he's the big bad devil
  2. You have control and authority over your life and for Satan to do anything in your life it has to first be authorized by you
  3. Resistance in faith makes it evident to him that he cannot devour you-James 4:7, Matthew 4
    - a. When you resist him in faith he cannot stay around and devour you anyway
    - b. **Faith in God and in God 's word exercises your authority and denies Satan access into your life; it runs him off**
    - c. Exercising your faith is how you exercise your authority of Satan
    - d. The enemy wants the believer in a position of acceptance not resistance; That's why he's pushed the statements about the sovereignty of God and God being in total control and just accept it because this is what God wants for your life – because the moment you start resisting Him in faith he is required to flee from you
    - e. **NEVER ACCEPT SOMETHING IN YOUR LIFE THAT JESUS HAS REDEEMED YOU FROM!!!**
  4. This one area where rather than exercising their authority many believers would rather beg God to get the devil off of them-2 Corinthians 12:9
    - a. It is unacceptable to ask God to do something that He has delegated responsibility and authority to you to do

- B. What authorizes Satan? Fear and disobedience to God's word or you could say faith and obedience in Satan's words
1. Genesis 3-Adam authorized Satan
    - a. Does Adam have authority over the devil? Yes
      - 1) **The first failure of man was the failure to exercise his God-given authority and run the enemy out of his life; the first failure of man was the failure to exercise his authority and then when it went bad he went to blaming**
      - 2) **He didn't say a word, he just stood there knowing he had dominion over that serpent**
      - 3) **Someone is there tearing up his life that he has authority over; what a tragedy**
    - b. He had faith in Satan's words, he obeyed his words, in turn Adam operated in unbelief concerning God's words and disobedience to God's words and gave Satan access to destroy their lives
      - 1) **Whomever you yield to you authorize to work in your life**
  2. Isaiah 54:14-Fear and disobedience authorizes the oppressor to oppress
    - a. Job 3:25-Job operated in fear (faith in the devil to destroy) disobeyed God & granted Satan access
      - 1) God doesn't have the right/authority to grant Satan permission to destroy; He gave that choice to man and by choosing fear Job chose oppression and death
    - b. Matthew 14:30-Peter authorized the devil with his fear and unbelief
    - c. Luke 8:50-Fear *not* keeps Satan out *Believe only* allows God in
      - 1) You deny Satan and grant me access and she will be made whole
    - d. Psalm 91-There's a permitting & denying taking place and that authority is being exercised by faith
  3. Ephesians 4:27-Give the devil no opportunity to come into your life
    - a. He can't take place, you have to give him place for him to have place
    - b. You have authority shut Satan out of every endeavor of your life and leave him on the outside looking in
- C. Colossians 1:13-Satan cannot make you do or be anything that you don't want to do or be
1. I have the God-given ability to partake of everything that Jesus obtained for me on the cross
  2. Power Definition
    - a. **Right**-Satan has no right to do anything in my life
    - b. **Jurisdiction**-I am out of his jurisdiction
    - c. **Liberty**-Satan doesn't have the liberty to come into my life and do as he pleases
    - d. **Power of choice**-It's my choice, not his and he can't choose for me or take my choice
    - e. **Permission**-Satan doesn't have any permission in my life

- f. Physical and mental power; the ability or strength with which one is endowed, which he either possesses or exercises – Greater is he that is in me; 1 John 4:4
  - g. The power of rule or government (the power of him whose will and commands must be submitted to by others and obeyed) --- I don't have to do one thing he says he does not rule in my life and do not have to submit to his will
- D. Satan is not all that he has cracked himself up to be
1. He is a deceiver-Revelation 12:9
    - a. He's tried to deceive the church about who he is because he knows the truth isn't impressive
  2. Isaiah 14:12-16-He is not in any way impressive; We need to see him smaller
    - a. He's not an opposite equal equivalent adversary to God: an equivalent evil; God got rid of him with finger power-Luke 11:20
    - b. God told him what was going to happen and he couldn't figure it out-Genesis 3:15
  3. Revelation 9:11-He is a fallen angel
    - a. Revelation 12:4, 2 Kings 6:6-He's out matched-1/3 of the angels
  4. James 2:19-Devils tremble in his presence
    - a. Luke 4:35-Shut up and get out was all Jesus needed to get rid of him
    - b. **Ephesians 6:16-Everything he's got can be quenched with faith**
    - c. Like the true coward he is the moment he feels resistance he quits-James 4:7
  5. Matthew 28:18-Satan has no authority in the life of a believer
    - a. Luke 10:18-19-Jesus saw him fall from heaven and you have authority over him
  6. Ex: Kenneth Hagin Psalm 91 swine flu example
  7. EX: Smith Wigglesworth at the foot of His bed

#### IV. This places the responsibility for your life and the authority to change your life in your hands-Luke 19

- A. Blame simply transfers responsibility and in doing so blame forfeits authority
1. This is guy blamed his master for what happened (You're hard and severe and that's why I was afraid, and that's why I didn't make any more money; He's saying, "I'm not responsible for what happened, you are. If you weren't so mean I wouldn't have had to do that.")
    - a. He's saying that he had no control or authority concerning what happened here
  2. When you say you are not responsible for what happened you are saying you didn't have the authority to keep it from happening
    - a. In the undertones of blame is the belief that you have no authority
    - b. Blame says somebody other than me has the authority in this situation
- B. Those who refuse to accept responsibility will never walk in authority

1. The guy did not want to be responsible for what happened to that pound and because he rejected responsibility, he could not walk in authority; While the others were ruling and doing business he wasn't because he didn't want to be responsible
  2. Responsibility & authority go together; The more authority you have, the more responsible you become
    - a. With the ten pounds they got authority, but they also got responsibility
    - b. With more authority, always comes more responsibility and people reject the message of authority because they don't want the responsibility
    - c. Most people like "No fault Christianity" – It's a convenient way to live
    - d. If you want the authority you have to accept responsibility
  3. It is only when we begin to accept responsibility for what's happening in our lives that they will begin to walk in the authority to change their lives
- C. We've either blamed God or the devil when ultimately our lives are in our hands
1. If God's responsible for what does and doesn't happen or the devil's responsible for what happened then that means you had no authority concerning the matter
    - a. Religion has put the responsibility on God (*"It must not be God's will" or "God's sovereign and the Lord works in mysterious ways" "If God wants it for me then it will just happen, and if He doesn't then I guess this is just my lot in life."*)
  2. The moment you enter the blame game you've forfeited your authority and you are at the mercy of another and your future is in someone else's hands
    - a. EX: Fat people-It's in my genes
  3. 1 Samuel 15
    - a. 3,8,9-The command was to utter destroy all, but they spared the king and the spoil
    - b. 15-Saul didn't want to be responsible for the people and that's why he lost the authority to rule the people; what you don't want to be responsible for you lose the authority to rule over
      - 1) You don't want to be responsible for your life, then you lose the authority to rule over your life
      - 2) 20,21-Saul won't take responsibility and blames the people – BLAME
      - 3) The king is supposed to be responsible for the people
    - c. 26,28-Because he refused responsibility He lost is authority
- D. Deut30:11-15,19-He's calling Heaven and Earth to record this day against you because it's your choice
1. We're not blaming you, condemning you, we are empowering you
  2. If your responsible for it being the way it is, then you have the authority to change the way it is
  3. **By the enemy telling us we're not responsible for it, he's robbed us of our authority over it**