

Message Six

Christ as the One Who Has All Authority in Heaven and on Earth

RK *Hymns*: 941

Scripture Reading: Matt. 7:29; 21:24; Luke 5:24; Rom. 9:21-22; Heb. 13:17	
Matt 7:29	For He taught them as One having authority and not like their scribes.
Matt 21:24	And Jesus answered and said to them, I also will ask you one thing, which if you tell Me, I also will tell you by what authority I do these things.
Luke 5:24	But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on the earth to forgive Sins—he said to the one paralyzed, To you I say, Rise and take up your cot and go to your house.
Rom 9:21	Or does not the potter have authority over the clay to make out of the same lump one vessel unto honor and another unto dishonor?
Rom 9:22	And what if God, wishing to demonstrate His wrath and make His power known, endured with much long-suffering vessels of wrath fitted for destruction,
Heb 13:17	Obey the ones leading you and submit to them, for they watch over your souls as those who will render an account, that they may do this with joy and not groaning; for this would be unprofitable to you.

I. We need to have the definition of *authority*—Matt. 7:29:

Matt 7:29 For He taught them as One having authority and not like their scribes.

- A. The best definition of *authority* is “the power or right to give orders, make decisions, and enforce obedience, often stemming from a position of power or expertise.”
- B. In the Bible, *authority* is “the moral right to exercise power, which is ultimately derived from and originates with God.”

II. God is the supreme authority; He has all authority—Rom. 9:21-22:

Rom 9:21 Or does not the potter have authority over the clay to make out of the same lump one vessel unto honor and another unto dishonor?

Rom 9:22 And what if God, wishing to demonstrate His wrath and make His power known, endured with much long-suffering vessels of wrath fitted for destruction,

- A. God’s authority represents God Himself; God’s power represents only God’s works—Matt. 21:24; Luke 5:24.

Matt 21:24 And Jesus answered and said to them, I also will ask you one thing, which if you tell Me, I also will tell you by what authority I do these things.

Luke 5:24 But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on the earth to forgive Sins—he said to the one paralyzed, To you I say, Rise and take up your cot and go to your house.

- B. God’s authority is actually God Himself; authority issues out from God’s own being—Rev. 22:1.

Rev 22:1 And he showed me a river of water of life, bright as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb in the middle of its street.

- C. All authority—spiritual, positional, and governmental—derives from God—2 Cor. 10:8; 13:10; John 19:10-11; Gen. 9:6.

2 Cor 10:8 For even if I should boast somewhat more abundantly concerning our authority, which the Lord has given for building you up and not for overthrowing you, I will not be put to shame.

2 Cor 13:10 Therefore I write these things while being absent in order that when present I would not have to use severity, according to the authority which the Lord has given me for building up and not for overthrowing.

John 19:10 Therefore Pilate said to Him, You do not speak to me? Do You not know that I have authority to release You and I have authority to crucify You?

John 19:11 Jesus answered him, You would have no authority against Me if it were not given to you from above; for this reason, he who has delivered Me to you has the greater sin.

Gen 9:6 Whoever sheds man’s blood, / By man shall his blood be shed, / For in the image of God / He made man.

- D. When we touch God's authority, we touch God Himself—Isa. 6:1-5:
- Isa 6:1 In the year that King Uzziah died I saw the Lord sitting on a high and lofty throne, and the train of His robe filled the temple.
- Isa 6:2 Seraphim hovered over Him, each having six wings: With two he covered his face, and with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew.
- Isa 6:3 And one called to the other, saying: Holy, holy, holy, Jehovah of hosts; / The whole earth is filled with His glory.
- Isa 6:4 And the foundations of the threshold shook at the voice of him who called, and the house was filled with smoke.
- Isa 6:5 Then I said, Woe is me, for I am finished! / For I am a man of unclean lips, / And in the midst of a people of unclean lips I dwell; / Yet my eyes have seen the King, Jehovah of hosts.
1. Meeting God's authority is the same as meeting God—Amos 4:12.
Amos 4:12 Therefore this is what I will do to you, O Israel; / And because I will do this to you, / Prepare to meet your God, O Israel.
 2. Offending God's authority is the same as offending God Himself.
- E. In our relationship with God, nothing is more important than touching authority—Acts 9:5; Matt. 11:25.
- Acts 9:5 And he said, Who are You, Lord? And He said, I am Jesus, whom you persecute.
- Matt 11:25 At that time Jesus answered and said, I extol You, Father, Lord of heaven and of earth, because You have hidden these things from the wise and intelligent and have revealed them to infants.
- F. Knowing authority is an inward revelation rather than an outward teaching—Acts 22:6-16.
- Acts 22:6 And as I journeyed and drew near to Damascus about midday, suddenly a great light flashed out of heaven around me;
- Acts 22:7 And I fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to me, Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me?
- Acts 22:8 And I answered, Who are You, Lord? And He said to me, I am Jesus the Nazarene, whom you persecute.
- Acts 22:9 And those who were with me beheld the light, but did not hear the voice of the One who was speaking to me.
- Acts 22:10 And I said, What shall I do, Lord? And the Lord said to me, Rise up and go into Damascus, and there it will be told to you concerning all the things which have been appointed to you to do.
- Acts 22:11 And as I could not see because of the glory of that light, I was led by the hand by those who were with me and came into Damascus.
- Acts 22:12 And a certain Ananias, a devout man according to the law, well attested to by all the Jews dwelling there,
- Acts 22:13 Came to me, and standing by, said to me, Saul, brother, receive your sight! And in that very hour I looked up at him.
- Acts 22:14 And he said, The God of our fathers has previously appointed you to know His will and to see the righteous One and to hear the voice from His mouth;
- Acts 22:15 For you will be a witness to Him unto all men of the things which you have seen and heard.
- Acts 22:16 And now, why do you delay? Rise up and be baptized and wash away your sins, calling on His name.
- G. Only God is the direct authority to man; all other authorities are indirect authorities—delegated authorities, deputy authorities, appointed by God—Dan. 4:32, 34-37:
- Dan 4:32 And from among mankind you shall be driven out, and with the beasts of the field shall your dwelling place be; you shall be made to eat grass as bulls do; and seven periods of time will pass over you, until you come to know that the Most High is the Ruler over the kingdom of men and gives it to whomever He wills.
- Dan 4:34 And at the end of those days I, Nebuchadnezzar, lifted up my eyes to heaven, and reason returned to me; and I blessed the Most High, and I praised and honored the ever-living One; For His dominion is an eternal dominion, / And His kingdom is from generation to generation;

- Dan 4:35 And all the inhabitants of earth are considered as nothing, / But He does according to His will in the army of heaven / And among the inhabitants of the earth; / And there is no one who can resist His hand / Or say to Him, What are You doing?
- Dan 4:36 At that time my reason returned to me; and for the glory of my kingdom, my majesty and my splendor returned to me; and my counselors and my lords sought me out, and I was established in my kingdom, and surpassing greatness was added to me.
- Dan 4:37 Now I, Nebuchadnezzar, praise and exalt and honor the King of the heavens, because all His works are truth and His ways justice, and because He is able to abase those who walk in pride.
1. Only when we meet God's authority can we submit to the delegated authorities whom God appoints—Matt. 28:18; Heb. 13:17; 1 Pet. 5:5.
 - Matt 28:18 And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.
 - Heb 13:17 Obey the ones leading you and submit to them, for they watch over your souls as those who will render an account, that they may do this with joy and not groaning; for this would be unprofitable to you.
 - 1 Pet 5:5 In like manner, younger men, be subject to elders; and all of you gird yourselves with humility toward one another, because God resists the proud but gives grace to the humble.
 2. God requires that we submit not only to Him but to all the delegated authorities—Rom. 13:1-7; 2 Cor. 10:8; 13:10; Heb. 13:17.
 - Rom 13:1 Let every person be subject to the authorities over him, for there is no authority except from God, and those which exist are ordained by God.
 - Rom 13:2 So then he who resists the authority opposes God's ordination, and those who oppose will receive judgment to themselves.
 - Rom 13:3 For the rulers are not a terror to the good work, but to the evil. Do you want to have no fear of the authority? Do what is good, and you will have praise from him;
 - Rom 13:4 For he is a servant of God to you for good. But if you do what is evil, fear; he does not bear the sword in vain; for he is a servant of God, an avenger for wrath to him who practices evil.
 - Rom 13:5 Therefore it is necessary to be subject, not only because of wrath but also because of conscience.
 - Rom 13:6 For because of this you also pay taxes; for they are God's officers, attending constantly to this very thing.
 - Rom 13:7 Render to all the things due: tax to whom tax is due, custom to whom custom is due, fear to whom fear is due, honor to whom honor is due.
 - 2 Cor 10:8 For even if I should boast somewhat more abundantly concerning our authority, which the Lord has given for building you up and not for overthrowing you, I will not be put to shame.
 - 2 Cor 13:10 Therefore I write these things while being absent in order that when present I would not have to use severity, according to the authority which the Lord has given me for building up and not for overthrowing.
 - Heb 13:17 Obey the ones leading you and submit to them, for they watch over your souls as those who will render an account, that they may do this with joy and not groaning; for this would be unprofitable to you.
 3. Those who do not submit to God's indirect authority cannot submit to God's direct authority.
 4. God wants us to submit to indirect authority—delegated authorities—so that we may receive spiritual supply.
- H. We all must meet authority, be restricted by God, and be led by His delegated authority—Isa. 37:16; Phil. 2:12; Heb. 13:17.
- Isa 37:16 O Jehovah of hosts, God of Israel, who dwells between the cherubim, You alone are God of all the kingdoms of the earth; You made the heavens and the earth.
 - Phil 2:12 So then, my beloved, even as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only but now much rather in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling;

Heb 13:17 Obey the ones leading you and submit to them, for they watch over your souls as those who will render an account, that they may do this with joy and not groaning; for this would be unprofitable to you.

III. There are two great principles in the universe—God’s authority and Satan’s rebellion; the unique controversy between God and Satan concerns authority—Acts 26:18; Col. 1:13:

Acts 26:18 To open their eyes, to turn them from darkness to light and from the authority of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who have been sanctified by faith in Me.

Col 1:13 Who delivered us out of the authority of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of the Son of His love,

A. Rebellion is the denial of God’s authority and the rejection of God’s rule:

1. Satan was originally an archangel created by God, but due to his pride he uplifted himself, violated God’s sovereignty, rebelled against God, became God’s adversary, and established his own kingdom—Isa. 14:12-14; Ezek. 28:2-19; Matt. 12:26.

Isa 14:12 How you have fallen from heaven, / O Daystar, son of the dawn! / How you have been hewn down to earth, / You who made nations fall prostrate!

Isa 14:13 But you, you said in your heart: / I will ascend to heaven; / Above the stars of God / I will exalt my throne. / And I will sit upon the mount of assembly / In the uttermost parts of the north.

Isa 14:14 I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; / I will make myself like the Most High.

Ezek 28:2 Son of man, say to the prince of Tyre, Thus says the Lord Jehovah, Because your heart is lifted up, and you have said, I am a god—I sit in the seat of God in the midst of the seas; yet you are a man and not a god, although you set your heart as if it were the heart of God.

Ezek 28:3 Indeed you are wiser than Daniel; there is no secret hidden from you;

Ezek 28:4 By your wisdom and by your understanding you have made your wealth and accumulated gold and silver in your treasuries.

Ezek 28:5 By your great wisdom and by your trading you have increased your wealth, but your heart has become lifted up because of your wealth.

Ezek 28:6 Therefore thus says the Lord Jehovah, Because you have set your heart as if it were the heart of God,

Ezek 28:7 Therefore I am about to bring strangers upon you, the most ruthless of the nations; and they will draw their swords against the beauty of your wisdom, and they will defile your splendor.

Ezek 28:8 To the pit they will bring you down, and in the heart of the seas you will die the death of those who are slain.

Ezek 28:9 Will you indeed say in the presence of the one who slays you, I am God? But you are a man and not a god in the hand of the one who wounds you.

Ezek 28:10 You will die the death of the uncircumcised by the hand of strangers, for I have spoken, declares the Lord Jehovah.

Ezek 28:11 Moreover the word of Jehovah came to me, saying,

Ezek 28:12 Son of man, take up a lamentation for the king of Tyre, and say to him, Thus says the Lord Jehovah, O you who sealed up perfection, full of wisdom and perfect in beauty,

Ezek 28:13 You were in Eden, the garden of God. Every precious stone was your covering, sardius, topaz, diamond, chrysolite, onyx, jasper, sapphire, carbuncle, and emerald, with gold. The workmanship of your tambourines and your pipes was prepared with you on the day that you were created.

Ezek 28:14 You were the anointed cherub who covered the Ark; indeed I set you, so that you were upon the holy mountain of God; you walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire.

Ezek 28:15 You were perfect in your ways from the day that you were created, until unrighteousness was found in you.

Ezek 28:16 By the abundance of your trading they filled your midst with violence, and you sinned. So I cast you out as profane from the mountain of God, and I destroyed

- you, O covering cherub, from the midst of the stones of fire.
- Ezek 28:17 Your heart was lifted up because of your beauty; you corrupted your wisdom by reason of your brightness. I cast you to the ground; I presented you before kings that they may look at you.
- Ezek 28:18 By the multitude of your iniquities in the unrighteousness of your trading you have profaned your sanctuaries. Therefore I sent forth fire from your midst; it consumed you, and I reduced you to ashes upon the earth in the sight of all those who look at you.
- Ezek 28:19 All who know you among the peoples are astonished at you. You have become a source of terror, and you will be no more forever.
- Matt 12:26 And if Satan casts out Satan, he is divided against himself. How then will his kingdom stand?
2. When man sinned, he rebelled against God, denied God's authority, and rejected God's rule; at Babel men rebelled collectively against God to abolish God's authority from the earth—Gen. 3:1-6; 11:1-9.
- Gen 3:1 Now the serpent was more crafty than any other animal of the field that Jehovah God had made. And he said to the woman, Did God really say, You shall not eat of any tree of the garden?
- Gen 3:2 And the woman said to the serpent, Of the fruit of the trees of the garden we may eat;
- Gen 3:3 But of the fruit of the tree which is in the middle of the garden, God has said, You shall not eat of it, nor shall you touch it, lest you die.
- Gen 3:4 And the serpent said to the woman, You shall not surely die!
- Gen 3:5 For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will become like God, knowing good and evil.
- Gen 3:6 And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make oneself wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband with her, and he ate.
- Gen 11:1 And the whole earth had one language and the same speech.
- Gen 11:2 And as they journeyed east, they found a plain in the land of Shinar; and they dwelt there.
- Gen 11:3 And they said to one another, Come, let us make bricks and burn them thoroughly. And they had brick for stone, and they had tar for mortar.
- Gen 11:4 And they said, Come, let us build ourselves a city and a tower whose top is in the heavens; and let us make a name for ourselves, lest we be scattered over the surface of the whole earth.
- Gen 11:5 And Jehovah came down to see the city and the tower which the children of men had built.
- Gen 11:6 And Jehovah said, Behold, they are one people, and they all have one language; and this is only the beginning of what they will do; and now nothing which they purpose to do will be kept from them.
- Gen 11:7 Come, let Us go down and there confound their language, that they may not understand one another's speech.
- Gen 11:8 So Jehovah scattered them from there over the surface of all the earth, and they ceased building the city.
- Gen 11:9 Therefore its name was called Babel, because there Jehovah confounded the language of all the earth, and from there Jehovah scattered them over the surface of all the earth.
- B. Although Satan rebelled against God's authority and although man violates His authority by rebelling against Him, God will not let this rebellion continue; He will establish His kingdom on the earth—Rev. 11:15.
- Rev 11:15 And the seventh angel trumpeted; and there were loud voices in heaven, saying, The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ, and He will reign forever and ever.
- C. The center of dispute in the universe relates to who has authority—4:2-3:
- Rev 4:2 Immediately I was in spirit; and behold, there was a throne set in heaven, and upon the throne there was One sitting;

- Rev 4:3 And He who was sitting was like a jasper stone and a sardius in appearance, and there was a rainbow around the throne like an emerald in appearance.
1. We must contend with Satan by asserting that authority is with God—Acts 17:24, 30.
 Acts 17:24 The God who made the world and all things in it, this One, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not dwell in temples made with hands;
 Acts 17:30 Therefore, having overlooked the times of ignorance, God now charges all men everywhere to repent,
 2. We need to set ourselves to submit to God’s authority and uphold God’s authority—
 Matt. 11:25.
 Matt 11:25 At that time Jesus answered and said, I extol You, Father, Lord of heaven and of earth, because You have hidden these things from the wise and intelligent and have revealed them to infants.
- D. The sin of rebellion is more serious than any other kind of sin—1 Sam. 15:23.
 1 Sam 15:23 For rebellion is like the sin of divination, / And insubordination is like idolatry and teraphim. / Because you have rejected the word of Jehovah, / He has also rejected you from being king.

IV. A person who represents God with authority (a deputy authority) must have the following qualifications:

- A. He must submit to authority—Matt. 8:8-9.
 Matt 8:8 But the centurion answered and said, Lord, I am not fit for You to enter under my roof; but only speak a word, and my servant will be healed.
 Matt 8:9 For I also am a man under authority, having soldiers under me. And I say to this one, Go, and he goes; and to another, Come, and he comes; and to my slave, Do this, and he does it.
- B. He must realize that in himself he has no authority—28:18; 2 Cor. 10:8; 13:10.
 Matt 28:18 And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.
 2 Cor 10:8 For even if I should boast somewhat more abundantly concerning our authority, which the Lord has given for building you up and not for overthrowing you, I will not be put to shame.
 2 Cor 13:10 Therefore I write these things while being absent in order that when present I would not have to use severity, according to the authority which the Lord has given me for building up and not for overthrowing.
- C. He must know God’s will—Eph. 1:9; 5:17.
 Eph 1:9 Making known to us the mystery of His will according to His good pleasure, which He purposed in Himself,
 Eph 5:17 Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is.
- D. He must be one who denies the self—Matt. 16:24.
 Matt 16:24 Then Jesus said to His disciples, If anyone wants to come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me.
- E. He must be one with the Lord and live in constant and intimate fellowship with the Lord—1 Cor. 6:17; 1:9; 1 John 1:3.
 1 Cor 6:17 But he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit.
 1 Cor 1:9 God is faithful, through whom you were called into the fellowship of His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
 1 John 1:3 That which we have seen and heard we report also to you that you also may have fellowship with us, and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ.
- F. He must not be subjective and must not act according to his own feeling—2 Cor. 3:5.
 2 Cor 3:5 Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to account anything as from ourselves; but our sufficiency is from God,
- G. He must be kind and gracious in dealing with others—Luke 6:35; cf. Rom. 5:15-16; 1 Cor. 2:12.
 Luke 6:35 But love your enemies, and do good and lend, expecting nothing in return, and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High; for He is kind to the unthankful and evil.

- Rom 5:15 But it is not that as the offense was, so also the gracious gift is; for if by the offense of the one the many died, much more the grace of God and the free gift in grace of the one man Jesus Christ have abounded to the many.
- Rom 5:16 And it is not that as through one who sinned, so also the free gift is; for the judgment was out of one offense unto condemnation, but the gracious gift is out of many offenses unto justification.
- 1 Cor 2:12 But we have received not the spirit of the world but the Spirit which is from God, that we may know the things which have been graciously given to us by God;
- H. He must be a person in resurrection, living in the resurrection life of Christ—2 Cor. 1:9; 4:14.
- 2 Cor 1:9 Indeed we ourselves had the response of death in ourselves, that we should not base our confidence on ourselves but on God, who raises the dead;
- 2 Cor 4:14 Knowing that He who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus and will make us stand before Him with you.
- I. He must take a lowly place before God—Num. 14:5; 16:3-4, 22, 45; Matt. 11:29; Rom. 12:16; Luke 14:7-11; 1 Pet. 5:5-6.
- Num 14:5 Then Moses and Aaron fell on their faces before the whole congregation of the assembly of the children of Israel.
- Num 16:3 And they assembled themselves together against Moses and against Aaron, and said to them, You take too much upon yourselves, for all the assembly are holy, every one of them, and Jehovah is among them. Why then do you exalt yourselves above the congregation of Jehovah?
- Num 16:4 And when Moses heard this, he fell on his face.
- Num 16:22 But they fell on their faces and said, O God, the God of the spirits of all flesh, will one man sin and You be angry with the whole assembly?
- Num 16:45 Get away from the midst of this assembly that I might consume them in a moment. And they fell upon their faces.
- Matt 11:29 Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am meek and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.
- Rom 12:16 Be of the same mind toward one another, not setting your mind on the high things but going along with the lowly; do not be wise in yourselves.
- Luke 14:7 And He told a parable to those who had been invited, when He noticed how they were choosing the places of honor, saying to them,
- Luke 14:8 When you are invited by anyone to a wedding feast, do not recline in the place of honor, lest someone more honorable than you may have been invited by him,
- Luke 14:9 And he who invited you and him come and say to you, Give this one that place; and then you begin with shame to occupy the last place.
- Luke 14:10 But when you are invited, go and recline in the last place, so that when the one who has invited you comes, he may say to you, Friend, come up higher. Then you will have glory before all those reclining with you.
- Luke 14:11 For everyone who exalts himself shall be humbled, and he who humbles himself shall be exalted.
- 1 Pet 5:5 In like manner, younger men, be subject to elders; and all of you gird yourselves with humility toward one another, because God resists the proud but gives grace to the humble.
- 1 Pet 5:6 Therefore be humbled under the mighty hand of God that He may exalt you in due time,
- J. He must be able to bear offenses—Exo. 16:7; Num. 14:2, 5, 9, 27; Matt. 6:14-15; 1 Cor. 4:6-13.
- Exo 16:7 And in the morning you will see the glory of Jehovah, for He hears your murmurings against Jehovah. And what are we, that you murmur against us?
- Num 14:2 And all the children of Israel murmured against Moses and against Aaron; and the whole assembly said to them, If only we had died in the land of Egypt! Or if only we had died in this wilderness!
- Num 14:5 Then Moses and Aaron fell on their faces before the whole congregation of the assembly of the children of Israel.
- Num 14:9 Only do not rebel against Jehovah, nor should you fear the people of the land, for they are our bread. Their protection has been removed from them, and Jehovah is with us; do not fear them.

- Num 14:27 How long shall I bear with this evil assembly, which murmurs against Me? I have heard the murmurings of the children of Israel, which they are making against Me.
- Matt 6:14 For if you forgive men their offenses, your heavenly Father will forgive you also;
- Matt 6:15 But if you do not forgive men their offenses, neither will your Father forgive your offenses.
- 1 Cor 4:6 Now these things, brothers, I have transferred in figure to myself and Apollos for your sakes, that you may learn in us the matter of not going beyond what has been written, that none of you may be puffed up on behalf of one, against the other.
- 1 Cor 4:7 For who distinguishes you? And what do you have that you did not receive? And if you did receive it, why do you boast as though not having received it?
- 1 Cor 4:8 Already you are filled; already you have become rich; you have reigned without us. And I would have it indeed that you did reign, that we also might reign with you.
- 1 Cor 4:9 For, I think, God has set forth us the apostles last of all as doomed to death, because we have become a spectacle to the world, both to angels and to men.
- 1 Cor 4:10 We are fools because of Christ, but you are prudent in Christ; we are weak, but you are strong; you are glorious, but we are dishonored.
- 1 Cor 4:11 Until the present hour we both hunger and thirst, and are naked and buffeted and wander without a home;
- 1 Cor 4:12 And we labor, working with our own hands. Reviled we bless; persecuted we endure;
- 1 Cor 4:13 Defamed we exhort. We have become as the offscouring of the world, the scum of all things, until now.
- K. He must have a consciousness of his inability and unsuitability—Exo. 3:11; 4:6-7, 10; 2 Cor. 3:5; 1 Cor. 15:10.
- Exo 3:11 But Moses said to God, Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and that I should bring the children of Israel out of Egypt?
- Exo 4:6 And Jehovah further said to him, Now put your hand into your bosom. And he put his hand into his bosom, and when he took it out, there his hand was, leprous as white as snow.
- Exo 4:7 And He said, Put your hand into your bosom again—so he put his hand into his bosom again, and when he took it out of his bosom, there it was, restored like the rest of his flesh -
- Exo 4:10 And Moses said to Jehovah, Please, Lord, I am not a man of words, neither in the past, nor since You have spoken to Your servant, for I am slow of speech and slow of tongue.
- 2 Cor 3:5 Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to account anything as from ourselves; but our sufficiency is from God,
- 1 Cor 15:10 But by the grace of God I am what I am; and His grace unto me did not turn out to be in vain, but, on the contrary, I labored more abundantly than all of them, yet not I but the grace of God which is with me.
- L. He must be one who represents God properly—Num. 20:2-13; 2 Cor. 5:18, 20; Eph. 6:20.
- Num 20:2 And there was no water for the assembly, and they gathered themselves together against Moses and against Aaron.
- Num 20:3 And the people contended with Moses and spoke, saying, If only we had expired when our brothers expired before Jehovah!
- Num 20:4 Why then have you brought the congregation of Jehovah into this wilderness for us and our livestock to die there?
- Num 20:5 Why then did you bring us up out of Egypt, to bring us to this wretched place? It is not a place of grain or figs or vines or pomegranates, and there is not even water to drink.
- Num 20:6 And Moses and Aaron went from before the congregation to the entrance of the Tent of Meeting and fell upon their faces, and the glory of Jehovah appeared to them.
- Num 20:7 Then Jehovah spoke to Moses, saying,
- Num 20:8 Take the rod, and gather the assembly, you and Aaron your brother, and speak to the rock before their eyes, so that it yields its water. Thus you shall bring forth water for them out of the rock and give the assembly and their livestock something to drink.
- Num 20:9 And Moses took the rod from before Jehovah, as He had commanded him.
- Num 20:10 And Moses and Aaron gathered the congregation together before the rock, and he said to them, Listen now, you rebels: Shall we bring forth water for you out of this rock?

- Num 20:11 Then Moses lifted up his hand and struck the rock with his rod twice; and abundant water came forth, and the assembly and their livestock drank.
- Num 20:12 And Jehovah said to Moses and Aaron, Because you did not believe in Me, to sanctify Me in the sight of the children of Israel, therefore you shall not bring this congregation into the land which I have given them.
- Num 20:13 These are the waters of Meribah, where the children of Israel contended with Jehovah, and He was sanctified among them.
- 2 Cor 5:18 But all things are out from God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Christ and has given to us the ministry of reconciliation;
- 2 Cor 5:20 On behalf of Christ then we are ambassadors, as God entreats you through us; we beseech you on behalf of Christ, Be reconciled to God.
- Eph 6:20 For which I am an ambassador in a chain, that in it I would speak boldly, as I ought to speak.

V. The most important prayer and the most spiritual prayer is the prayer of authority—Matt. 18:18; Mark 11:20-24:

- Matt 18:18 Truly I say to you, Whatever you bind on the earth shall have been bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on the earth shall have been loosed in heaven.
- Mark 11:20 And as they passed by in the morning, they saw the fig tree withered from the roots.
- Mark 11:21 And Peter remembered and said to Him, Rabbi, behold, the fig tree which You cursed has withered.
- Mark 11:22 And Jesus answered and said to them, Have faith in God.
- Mark 11:23 Truly I say to you that whoever says to this mountain, Be taken up and cast into the sea, and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that what he says happens, he will have it.
- Mark 11:24 For this reason I say to you, All things that you pray and ask, believe that you have received them, and you will have them.
- A. The prayer of authority is a command based on authority—Isa. 45:11; Mark 11:20-24:
- Isa 45:11 Thus says Jehovah, / The Holy One of Israel and the One who formed him, / Ask Me about the things to come concerning My sons, / And concerning the work of My hands, command Me.
- Mark 11:20 And as they passed by in the morning, they saw the fig tree withered from the roots.
- Mark 11:21 And Peter remembered and said to Him, Rabbi, behold, the fig tree which You cursed has withered.
- Mark 11:22 And Jesus answered and said to them, Have faith in God.
- Mark 11:23 Truly I say to you that whoever says to this mountain, Be taken up and cast into the sea, and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that what he says happens, he will have it.
- Mark 11:24 For this reason I say to you, All things that you pray and ask, believe that you have received them, and you will have them.
1. The prayer of authority is a commanding prayer—Isa. 45:11.
Isa 45:11 Thus says Jehovah, / The Holy One of Israel and the One who formed him, / Ask Me about the things to come concerning My sons, / And concerning the work of My hands, command Me.
 2. If we wish to have weighty and valuable prayers before God, we need to be able to give out some authoritative commands before God—Mark 11:23.
Mark 11:23 Truly I say to you that whoever says to this mountain, Be taken up and cast into the sea, and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that what he says happens, he will have it.
- B. The prayer of authority has two aspects—binding and loosing—Matt. 18:18:
- Matt 18:18 Truly I say to you, Whatever you bind on the earth shall have been bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on the earth shall have been loosed in heaven.
1. Ordinary prayers are prayers that ask God to bind and loose.
 2. Prayers with authority are those in which we bind and loose by exercising authority.
- C. Praying with authority is praying the prayer of Mark 11:20-24—a prayer that is directed not to God but to “this mountain”—v. 23:
- Mark 11:20 And as they passed by in the morning, they saw the fig tree withered from the roots.
- Mark 11:21 And Peter remembered and said to Him, Rabbi, behold, the fig tree which You cursed has withered.

- Mark 11:22 And Jesus answered and said to them, Have faith in God.
- Mark 11:23 Truly I say to you that whoever says to this mountain, Be taken up and cast into the sea, and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that what he says happens, he will have it.
- Mark 11:24 For this reason I say to you, All things that you pray and ask, believe that you have received them, and you will have them.
1. A prayer with authority does not ask God to do something; rather, it exercises God's authority and applies this authority to deal with problems and things that ought to be removed—v. 23.

Mark 11:23 Truly I say to you that whoever says to this mountain, Be taken up and cast into the sea, and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that what he says happens, he will have it.
 2. A prayer with authority is not asking God directly; rather, it is dealing with problems by directly applying God's authority—Exo. 14:15-27.

Exo 14:15 And Jehovah said to Moses, Why do you cry out to Me? Tell the children of Israel to move forward.

Exo 14:16 And you, lift up your staff, and stretch out your hand over the sea, and divide it; and the children of Israel shall go into the midst of the sea on dry ground.

Exo 14:17 And I will now harden the hearts of the Egyptians, and they will go in after them; and I will glorify Myself through Pharaoh and through all his army, through his chariots and through his horsemen.

Exo 14:18 Then the Egyptians will know that I am Jehovah when I glorify Myself through Pharaoh, through his chariots and through his horsemen.

Exo 14:19 And the Angel of God, who went before the camp of Israel, moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from before them and stood behind them.

Exo 14:20 And it came between the camp of the Egyptians and the camp of Israel. And the cloud was there with the darkness, yet it gave light by night to them. Thus one did not come near the other all night.

Exo 14:21 And when Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, Jehovah caused the sea to go back by a strong east wind all the night and made the sea dry land; and the waters were divided.

Exo 14:22 And the children of Israel went into the midst of the sea upon the dry ground, and the waters were a wall to them on their right hand and on their left.

Exo 14:23 Then the Egyptians pursued; and all Pharaoh's horses, his chariots, and his horsemen went in after them into the midst of the sea.

Exo 14:24 And at the morning watch Jehovah looked down upon the camp of the Egyptians from with the pillar of fire and of cloud and threw the camp of the Egyptians into confusion.

Exo 14:25 And He caused their chariot wheels to swerve and made them drive with difficulty, so that the Egyptians said, Let us flee from Israel, for Jehovah is fighting for them against the Egyptians.

Exo 14:26 And Jehovah said to Moses, Stretch out your hand over the sea so that the waters come back over the Egyptians, over their chariots and over their horsemen.

Exo 14:27 And Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and the sea returned to its level when the morning appeared. And the Egyptians fled against it, and Jehovah cast the Egyptians off into the midst of the sea.
 3. The most important work of the overcomers is to bring the authority of the throne to earth; if we want to be an overcomer, we must learn to pray with authority and speak to the mountain—Rev. 11:15; 12:10.

Rev 11:15 And the seventh angel trumpeted; and there were loud voices in heaven, saying, The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ, and He will reign forever and ever.

Rev 12:10 And I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, Now has come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of His Christ, for the accuser of our brothers has been cast down, who accuses them before our God day and night.

- D. When the church prays with authority, it rules over Hades—Matt. 16:18:
 Matt 16:18 And I also say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.
1. The church has the authority to rule over every satanic thing.
 2. The church should subdue all the activities of the evil spirits by means of prayer and should exercise dominion through prayer—Luke 10:17-19; Matt. 18:18.
 Luke 10:17 And the seventy returned with joy, saying, Lord, even the demons are subject to us in Your name.
 Luke 10:18 And He said to them, I was watching Satan fall like lightning out of heaven.
 Luke 10:19 Behold, I have given you the authority to tread upon serpents and scorpions and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you.
 Matt 18:18 Truly I say to you, Whatever you bind on the earth shall have been bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on the earth shall have been loosed in heaven.
- E. If we would pray the prayer of authority, we must first submit to God's authority ourselves; unless we submit to God's authority with respect to His position and submit to His authority in our daily living and in all practical matters, we cannot pray with authority—Isa. 45:11; 1 Pet. 5:6; Rev. 22:1.
 Isa 45:11 Thus says Jehovah, / The Holy One of Israel and the One who formed him, / Ask Me about the things to come concerning My sons, / And concerning the work of My hands, command Me.
 1 Pet 5:6 Therefore be humbled under the mighty hand of God that He may exalt you in due time,
 Rev 22:1 And he showed me a river of water of life, bright as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb in the middle of its street.
- F. The prayer of authority has heaven as its starting point and earth as its destination—S. S. 4:8; 6:10; Eph. 1:22-23; 2:6; 6:18:
 S. S. 4:8 Come with me from Lebanon, my bride; / With me from Lebanon come. / Look from the top of Amana, / From the top of Senir and Hermon, / From the lions' dens, / From the leopards' mountains.
 S. S. 6:10 Who is this woman who looks forth like the dawn, / As beautiful as the moon, / As clear as the sun, / As terrible as an army with banners?
 Eph 1:22 And He subjected all things under His feet and gave Him to be Head over all things to the church,
 Eph 1:23 Which is His Body, the fullness of the One who fills all in all.
 Eph 2:6 And raised us up together with Him and seated us together with Him in the heavenlies in Christ Jesus,
 Eph 6:18 By means of all prayer and petition, praying at every time in spirit and watching unto this in all perseverance and petition concerning all the saints,
1. A prayer with authority is prayed from heaven to earth; it begins from a heavenly position and goes downward from heaven to earth—2:6.
 Eph 2:6 And raised us up together with Him and seated us together with Him in the heavenlies in Christ Jesus,
 2. To pray downward is to stand in the position that Christ has given us in the heavenlies, to command Satan with authority and reject all his works, and to proclaim with authority that all of God's commands should be accomplished—Matt. 6:9-10.
 Matt 6:9 You then pray in this way: Our Father who is in the heavens, Your name be sanctified;
 Matt 6:10 Your kingdom come; Your will be done, as in heaven, so also on earth.
- G. The position of prayer is ascension, and the authority of prayer is also ascension; all prayers in ascension are prayers of authority—Eph. 2:6; 1:22-23:
 Eph 2:6 And raised us up together with Him and seated us together with Him in the heavenlies in Christ Jesus,
 Eph 1:22 And He subjected all things under His feet and gave Him to be Head over all things to the church,
 Eph 1:23 Which is His Body, the fullness of the One who fills all in all.

1. The prayer of authority is the prayer by one who is able to give out commands by standing in the position of ascension—Isa. 45:11.
 Isa 45:11 Thus says Jehovah, / The Holy One of Israel and the One who formed him, / Ask Me about the things to come concerning My sons, / And concerning the work of My hands, command Me.
 2. If we are in the position of ascension, our prayer will be equal to God's administration; it will be the executing of His commands—Rev. 8:3-5.
 Rev 8:3 And another Angel came and stood at the altar, having a golden censer, and much incense was given to Him to offer with the prayers of all the saints upon the golden altar which was before the throne.
 Rev 8:4 And the smoke of the incense went up with the prayers of the saints out of the hand of the Angel before God.
 Rev 8:5 And the Angel took the censer and filled it with the fire of the altar and cast it to the earth; and there were thunders and voices and lightnings and an earthquake.
- H. When we come to the point where we have the heavenly position and the heavenly authority and are thus able to utter forth authoritative prayers, we are on the throne, reigning with the Lord—Eph. 2:5-6; Rev. 3:21; cf. Ezek. 1:26:
- Eph 2:5 Even when we were dead in offenses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved)
- Eph 2:6 And raised us up together with Him and seated us together with Him in the heavenlies in Christ Jesus,
- Rev 3:21 He who overcomes, to him I will give to sit with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat with My Father on His throne.
- Ezek 1:26 And above the expanse that was over their heads was the likeness of a throne, like the appearance of a sapphire stone; and upon the likeness of the throne was One in appearance like a man, above it.
1. At this time, our prayer is not only an authoritative prayer but also a reigning prayer, and our prayer becomes God's administration, the execution of God's rule—Rom. 5:17, 21; Matt. 18:18; Rev. 8:3-5.
 Rom 5:17 For if, by the offense of the one, death reigned through the one, much more those who receive the abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ.
 Rom 5:21 In order that just as sin reigned in death, so also grace might reign through righteousness unto eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.
 Matt 18:18 Truly I say to you, Whatever you bind on the earth shall have been bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on the earth shall have been loosed in heaven.
 Rev 8:3 And another Angel came and stood at the altar, having a golden censer, and much incense was given to Him to offer with the prayers of all the saints upon the golden altar which was before the throne.
 Rev 8:4 And the smoke of the incense went up with the prayers of the saints out of the hand of the Angel before God.
 Rev 8:5 And the Angel took the censer and filled it with the fire of the altar and cast it to the earth; and there were thunders and voices and lightnings and an earthquake.
 2. If we are willing to learn, we will arrive at a place where we can utter such prayers for the fulfillment of God's eternal purpose—Eph. 1:10-11; 3:9-11.
 Eph 1:10 Unto the economy of the fullness of the times, to head up all things in Christ, the things in the heavens and the things on the earth, in Him;
 Eph 1:11 In whom also we were designated as an inheritance, having been predestinated according to the purpose of the One who works all things according to the counsel of His will,
 Eph 3:9 And to enlighten all that they may see what the economy of the mystery is, which throughout the ages has been hidden in God, who created all things,
 Eph 3:10 In order that now to the rulers and the authorities in the heavenlies the multifarious wisdom of God might be made known through the church,
 Eph 3:11 According to the eternal purpose which He made in Christ Jesus our Lord,