



A Conduit Of Christ's Authority  
Matthew 28:18-20

## A Conduit of Christ's Authority

- You notice the lights of a Highway Patrol car behind you
  - So, why do you pull over?
  - Do they themselves have the authority?
    - It is a duplicate authority flowing from The Missouri State Highway Patrol which flows from the authority given them by The Missouri's governors and legislatures
  - Can the patrolman do whatever they want, whenever they want?
    - They are a conduit of authority passed to them from above that allows them the authority and power to pull you over

## A Conduit of Christ's Authority

- We have been looking at the question, “What is a disciple of Jesus?”
  - A Transforming believer
    - **Matthew 4:19 NIV**, “Come, Follow Me, and I will make”
    - **2nd Corinthians 3:18 NIV**, “And we all are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.”
    - ❖ **MSG**, And so we are (*being*) transfigured much like the Messiah, our lives gradually becoming brighter and more beautiful as God enters our lives and we become like him.

## A Conduit of Christ's Authority

- We have been looking at the question, “What is a disciple of Jesus?”
  - A Sanctuary of God's presence
    - **1st Corinthians 3:16 NCV**, Don't you know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit lives in you?
    - **Ezekiel 36:26-27 NIV**, 26 I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. 27 And I will put my Spirit in you and move you to follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws.

## A Conduit of Christ's Authority

- We have been looking at the question, “What is a disciple of Jesus?”
  - A Disciplined Learner of Truth
    - **John 16:12-13 NIV**, 12 “I have much more to say to you, more than you can now bear. 13 But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth.
  - A Conduit of Christ's Authority and power

## Scripture

- **Matthew 28:18-20 NIV**, 18 Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

## A Conduit of Christ's Authority

- One thing I am confident of is this, we as disciples of Jesus Christ underestimate the authority and power that flows to us or is made available to us from our relationship Christ Jesus
  - We do not fully understand who we are in Christ Jesus
  - We know we are forgiven; We know we are in the Kingdom; We know our Heavenly Father loves us; We know we are bound for heaven
  - But we do not understand fully the authority and power we get to piggyback into because of our Savior
  - And I believe it weakens us in our Christian walk

## A Conduit of Christ's Authority

- **Matthew 28:18-20 NIV**, 18 Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”
  - Immersing them in all the Father brings to the relationship and all the Son brings to the relationship and all the Holy Spirit brings to the relationship
  - Learn that by obeying everything Jesus has commanded
  - With a certain understanding or mindset



## Great authority and power are made available to us as born-again children of God

- **Ephesians 1:18-20 NIV**, 18 I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people, 19 and his incomparably great power for us who believe.
  - What kind of power is Paul talking about?
    - **Vs. 19**, That power is the same as the mighty strength 20 he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms.
  - Know it when, where?

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  - What kind of power is Paul talking about that is available to us?
    - Incomparable great power
    - This isn't mere nuclear power or hydrogen power or atomic power
    - It is power that cannot be fully measure or understood

## **Great authority and power are made available to us as born-again children of God**

- God has promised this incomparable power to His children to live the life He has called each of us to
  - A power we can call upon, depend upon

## Great authority and power are made available to us as born-again children of God

- God called Moses to stand before Pharaoh and demand he let God's people go
  - Moses was not called to wield God's power however he desired
  - It wasn't even his idea to go back to Egypt and he didn't want to
  - All Moses had in his hand was a stick and God's promise what would happen when he threw it down
  - All Moses did was drop his stick; God did the rest, but Moses was the conduit for God's power, he had to drop the stick and pick it back up, but Moses was not the power

## Great authority and power are made available to us as born-again children of God

- This same incomparable great power is available to every child of God
  - Not to wield as we want or to force God to yield to our wills
  - It is available to live as defined by Jesus, **Vs. 20**, “and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you”
  - You are going to need this power to do this
  - It takes great power to forgive, fear not, hold your anger and tongue, subdue the voice of our enemy, to simply stand

## Great authority and power are made available to us as born-again children of God

- This same incomparable great power is available to every child of God
  - **Ephesians 5:13 NIV**, Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand.
  - Your Heavenly Father has promised you this power if we do not lose faith
    - It is not your power but our Lord Jesus Christ
    - Not because of us but Him

## God has given us the power to break strongholds in our lives

- **2nd Corinthians 10:3-4 NIV**, 3 For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. 4 The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds.
- There are three lakes in the US you may think twice about swimming in Montezuma Well in Arizona, Lake Lanier in Georgia, and Lake Erie
  - Leaches will attach to your body

## **God has given us the power to break strongholds in our lives**

- There are three lakes in the US you may think twice about swimming in Montezuma Well in Arizona, Lake Lanier in Georgia, and Lake Erie
  - Leaches bites are painless, and they'll suck up five times their weight in blood if given the chance
  - They are segmented worms related to earthworms
  - They are excellent, graceful swimmers



## God has given us the power to break strongholds in our lives

- As a born-again child of God every single one of our sins has been forgiven
  - Some of them will hold on like a leach
  - We will try to handle these leaches in our own human fleshly wisdom, strength, power
  - We might even throw a Bible verse or two at them, but still, they hang on
  - We will be tempted to just live with them after all we are still forgiven, but we are not really living in freedom

## God has given us the power to break strongholds in our lives

- **2nd Corinthians 10:4 NIV**, The weapons we fight with have divine power to demolish the strongholds in your life
  - Not simply put up with, hide so others don't see, justify
  - Demolish - to put an end to; destroy; explode
  - It is not God's will that you should struggle with or put up with the strongholds still leaching your life
    - The events of your life are not your stronghold
    - The stronghold is how you respond to them

## God has given us the power to break strongholds in our lives

- **Galatians 5:1 NIV**, It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.
  - Many of us know of individuals that have stopped smoking only to picked up the habit again years later
  - It is not God's will that fear strangles you, addictions overwhelm you, bitterness taints your days, anger takes over you mind
  - **Ephesians 6:10 NIV**, Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power.

## God has given us the power to break strongholds in our lives

- We must never forget we are in a battle that plays out in our physical lives
  - We want God to just whisk away our stronghold and we whistle down the road
  - But we must fight and stand and face the roaring lion but not in our weakness, but in the power and authority of Jesus Christ

## God has given us the power to break strongholds in our lives

- Jesus was in a battle with Satan in the wilderness, what was Jesus' weapon
  - **Matthew 4:4 NIV**, Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"
  - **Matthew 4:7 NIV**, Jesus answered him, "It is also written: 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'"
  - **Matthew 4:10 NIV**, Jesus said to him, "Away from me, Satan! For it is written: 'Worship the Lord your God and serve him only.'"
  - Jesus resisted Satan through His faith in the truth provided in Scripture

## God has given us the power to break strongholds in our lives

- We must also fight using the truth of God's Word
  - Not just throwing Bible verses at it but believing to the core of our being in their truth, it is our promise from Christ
  - We fight in our position in Christ
  - We fight and keep fighting until we learn to release our stronghold to God and leave it there
  - We make decisions that allows the goodness of God to fill our days and events

## God has given us the power to break strongholds in our lives

- **James 4:7 NIV**, Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist (*and keep resisting*) the devil, and he will flee from you. 8 Come near to God and he will come near to you.
  - What can we expect if I do this consistently, humbly, repentantly?
  - **Psalm 27:13-14 NIV**, 13 I remain confident of this: I will see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living. 14 Wait for the Lord; be strong and take heart and wait for the Lord.

## **As a conduit Jesus' authority and power can flow through us to others**

- This is the story of Jesus' earthly life
- His authority and power flowed through His physical life as He touch the untouchable, needy, broken, afflicted, hopeless, lost, searching
- He gave sight to the blind and still desires to bring sight into the lives of lost sinners
- He still desires to bring authority and power into those struggling with strongholds
- Do not discount your loving touch, voice of encouragement, giving an ear to their suffering



## **As a conduit Jesus' authority and power can flow through us to others**

- Do not discount the power of your prayer in their lives
- Do not limit the power of God in today's world
- It is God's will that they hear of the transforming touch of our Master's hand

## A Conduit of Christ's Authority

- So, what is the summary for today?
  - **Philippians 4:13 AMP**, I can do all things [which He has called me to do] through Him who strengthens and empowers me [to fulfill His purpose—I am self-sufficient in Christ's sufficiency; I am ready for anything and equal to anything through Him who infuses me with inner strength and confident peace.]
  - **MSG**, Whatever I have, wherever I am, I can make it through anything in the One who makes me who I am.

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- So, what is the summary for today?
  - **Romans 8:37-39 NIV**, 37 In all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. 38 For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, 39 neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God (*His authority and power*) that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.
  - So, fight the good fight of faith within the authority and power of our Savior and Lord, Jesus Christ



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