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OUR SPIRITUAL AUTHORITY

There are two hierarchies in heaven. Of course, there is God's hierarchy which consists of God in the third heaven (1 Kings 8:27). Under God are the archangels: (Daniel 10:13, 12:1) Michael in particular, and Gabriel, messenger of God. (Daniel 8:16, 9:22) Then there are angels, messengers of God. They are agents that God sends forth to execute his purposes. They operate in all the heavens and on earth. These angels are just waiting for our prayers so that God will release them on earth. Whenever I pray, I also ask God to release the angel armies to carry out our prayer requests.

Then there is the hierarchy of Satan. He operates out of the second heaven. Remember God kicked him out of the third heaven. Under Satan are the princes of darkness, principalities, and rulers of darkness. Each one of these demonic entities oversees demonic brigades or battalions on earth. You could compare the strongmen to sergeants in an army. Under the strongmen are demonic spirits that are associated with each strongman. Those spirits you would compare to the foot soldiers in a regular army.

For example, under the strongman of heaviness, you will find evil spirits such as excessive mourning, sorrow, grief, self-pity, insomnia, broken hearted, despair, dejection, hopelessness, rejection, heaviness, depression, suicidal thoughts, and torn spirit. The above are all evil spirits whose main purpose is to try to harass, torment, and to kill, steal and destroy our lives.

Another strongman is called lying spirits. The following are evil spirits that are associated with it. They are strong deception, flattery, superstitions, false prophecy, religious bondages, accusations, slander, lies, gossip, and false teachers.

We believe there are at a minimum of 16 strongmen that can demonically influence us. Carol Robeson, in her book, *The Strongman is his Name. What is His Game?* was given a download from heaven concerning these 16 strongmen. We have been given permission to use the information concerning these strongmen and have added much more material in our deliverance book, *Setting Yourself Free, Deliverance from Darkness*, which can be purchased through our web site, littlesparrowministries.com.

We should never be afraid of the demonic realm. God has given us spiritual authority to deal with them if we are praying within our realm of authority. What do I mean by that? – you are probably saying.

We have authority to bind and loose and cast out the lower ranking demons – strongmen and individual demonic spirits or demons in the earth or atmospheric heaven.

However, I believe we do not have the authority to attack Satan, territorial spirits, princes and rulers of darkness, and principalities that reside in the second heaven. We must always ask God to rebuke those spirits including Satan.

If we do warfare outside our sphere of authority, major attacks could come against us and our families. There are some individuals that do have the authority to attack in the second heaven such as Chuck Pierce, Dutch Sheets and Cindy Jacobs. These individuals or generals in God's army have 1,000's of

intercessors praying with them and keeping them spiritually covered.

Now, how do we battle against the enemy?

God has given us the power and authority to drive out evil spirits and to heal every disease and sickness. The **tongue** is the weapon to be used to demonstrate this power and authority. The enemy cannot hear our thoughts. Praying a prayer in silence renders it ineffective. We must verbally address the enemy. The **prayer of agreement** is another weapon to be used with the **tongue**.

Know, without a doubt, that the Holy Spirit has come upon you and has given you the power and authority to deal with the enemy. Stand firm and resist, and he will flee.

Kenneth Hagin states in his book, *The Believer's Authority*, "All the authority that can be exercised upon the earth has to be exercised through the Church, because Christ is not here in person – in his physical body." He has conferred his authority on the earth to his Body, the Church. Thus, many problems exist because we permit them to. We are not doing anything about them. We are the ones who are supposed to do something about them, but we are trying to get someone else, including God, to do something about them." Use your authority!

God gave you this authority through his word.

Luke 10:19 I have given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions (demons and evil spirits) and to overcome all the power of the enemy, nothing will harm you.

Matthew 28:18 All authority in heaven and earth has been to me. God Himself is the power behind our authority. The devil and his forces are obliged to recognize our authority.

Kenneth Hagin, in his book, *The Believers' Authority*, gave an example of how to use our authority.

“He was praying for his older brother’s salvation for many years. I always prayed “God save him.” After he found out that he had the authority, he prayed this prayer, “In the name of Jesus, I break the power of the devil over my brother’s life, and I claim his salvation!” He gave the order and he knew it was going to be carried out. He broke the power of the devil over him, and he was saved.”

2 Corinthians 10:3-6 For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ...

In scriptures you will see the word “ask.” In the original Greek, ask really means demand. We have rights and privileges. So, in the name of Jesus, **demand** that the enemy give back what he has taken.

We can only exercise spiritual authority over ourselves and our households. If others ask you to pray for them, that is a different matter. Their **will** is what matters here. They **want** you to pray for them. However, demons will not come out of an individual if they really do not want them to leave.

The following is an example: A person asked me to pray for them concerning their alcohol addiction problem. I warned them that if they were not sincere and didn’t really wanted to stop their addiction that the enemy would come back seven times stronger

and bring others with him. I should have known that the person wasn't truly sincere in wanting to get rid of this addiction, and she wasn't. She died two years later, and I know it was because of her addiction problem.

Another example: A person asked me to pray for her concerning a smoking addiction. I prayed for her, and that demon released smoke into my face and said to me, "I am not going to leave as I have had her a long time." The person was not smoking, but the demon released the smoke. I knew then that the person really did not want to quit.

We must be specific in our prayers. The following is an example. This situation happened in the beginning of my ministry. Since then, I hope and pray that I have learned how to use God's weapons to protect myself. Thank God for his grace and mercy.

One evening the Lord told me to go to the church. Of course, I immediately left and walked up to the second floor of the building. A woman I had previously been counseling was walking towards me. She stated she had been praying that I would come. Her body was in the beginning stages of Multiple Sclerosis. She was having a difficult time walking.

I began taking authority over the spirit of infirmity. I was on my knees praying over her legs, and a spirit jumped on me. I could not raise my right arm. I spoke to the spirit of infirmity and demanded it leave me. It would not leave. The lady left walking straighter; however, I was in terrible shape.

When I got home, I asked God why I couldn't get rid of this spirit. He said, "You did not speak to the spirit of Multiple Sclerosis." I immediately cast off that spirit. The spirit of infirmity is a strongman. I addressed the strongman and the individual spirit of Multiple Sclerosis. I was specific, and it had to leave. It did.

Another example: Let us take “anger.” Anger is a spirit under the strongman of jealousy. Address the strongman of jealousy and spirit of anger. Cast it out.

You can cast it out of yourself but cannot cast it out of another person unless they are a willing participant. They must verbally tell it to flee. If that individual is not willing to participate, the only thing you can do is bind that spirit and loosen the Holy Spirit to bring him truth and knowledge so that he may be set free.

When I pray for someone, the Lord will give me a word of knowledge concerning the individual so I can pray specifically and address that person’s need.

Again, be specific in your prayers. Learn the names of the strongmen and the spirits that follow them.

I strongly recommend working through the deliverance book, *Setting Yourself Free, Deliverance from Darkness*.

Jeremiah 51 20-26 TLB Cyrus is God’s battleaxe and sword. **I will use you, says the Lord, to break nations in pieces and to destroy many kingdoms.**

With you I will crush armies, destroying the horse and his rider, the chariot and the charioteer – yes, and the civilians too, both old and young, young men and maidens, shepherds and flocks, farmers and oxen, captains and rulers; before your eyes I will repay Babylon and all the Chaldeans for all the evil they have done to my people, says the Lord.

For see, I am against you, O mighty mountain, Babylon, destroyer of the earth! I will lift my hand against you and roll you down from your heights and leave you, a burnt-out

mountain. You shall be desolate forever; even your stones shall never be used for building again. You shall be completely wiped out.

I recently saw myself and several other intercessors standing around a large mountain with an ax and sword in our hands. I felt that we were to take that mountain and bring it down.

The World Book Dictionary 1981 Edition describes a mountain as, “A very large heap or pile of anything. The crippled man overcame a mountain of difficulties.”

The following are scriptures that apply:

Matthew 17:20 NIV He replied, “Because you have so little faith, I tell you the truth, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there’ and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you.”

Psalms 144:1 NIV Praise be to the Lord my Rock, who trains my hands for war, my fingers for battle.

2 Corinthians 10:3-5 NIV For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.

When praying, use the scriptures and see yourself standing in front of your mountain as God’s warrior and use your authority!

Targeted Prayer:

Heavenly Father,

Use me as your battleaxe to pull down strongholds. Give me your plans, strategies, insights, revelations, and knowledge concerning what to pray and give me boldness and courage to do your will. Lord, I will declare and decree that what I have prayed is done. I will also ask the angelic armies to be released to accomplish what I have prayed. Here I am, Lord, use me. Amen.