***Believers Authority***
**Naturally Supernatural Series, Part 3**

## *Definition*

*"The power or right to do something, particularly to give orders and see that they are followed. The word authority as used in the Bible usually means a person's right to do certain things because of the position or office he holds. This word emphasizes the* ***legality and right****, more than the* ***physical strength****, needed to do something."*
– Jack Hayford – The Hayford Bible Companion

**My Definition of Authority:** "Our power and right over the devil and all his work; having God's favor to live a blessed life; and the boldness to advance His Kingdom on earth."

## *Biblical Perspective*

***Behold, I have given you authority to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing will injure you. – Luke 10:19***

***You are from God, little children, and have overcome them; because greater is He who is in you than he who is in the world. – 1 John 4:4***

***17 These miraculous signs will accompany those who believe: They will cast out demons in my name, and they will speak in new languages. 18 They will be able to handle snakes with safety, and if they drink anything poisonous, it won't hurt them. They will be able to place their hands on the sick, and they will be healed." – Mark 16:17-18 NLT***

## *From Adam to Us*

***"Do not be afraid, little flock, for your Father has chosen gladly to give you the kingdom." -Luke 12:32***

***19 I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; and whatever you bind on earth shall have been bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall have been loosed in heaven." -Matthew 16:19***

### 1. Authority is God's original design.

***27 God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.28 God blessed them; and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth, and subdue it; and rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over every living thing that moves on the earth." – Genesis 1:27-28***

**#2 – Authority is our promise.**

***Truly, truly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do, he will do also; and greater works than these he will do; because I go to the Father. – John 14:12***

**#3 – Authority is a gift.**

***And He called the twelve together, and gave them power and authority over all the demons and to heal diseases. 2 And He sent them out to proclaim the kingdom of God and to perform healing. – Luke 9:1-2***

***Purpose of Authority***

**#1 – It is the Father's Will.**

***"For you have been called for this purpose, since Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example for you to follow in His steps…." – 1 Peter 2:21***

**#2 – So that Heaven will invade earth.**

***"Your kingdom come Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven." – Matthew 6:10 NKJV***

**#3 – To prevent the enemy's will.**

***"The one who practices sin is of the devil; for the devil has sinned from the beginning. The Son of God appeared for this purpose, to destroy the works of the devil. – 1 John 3:8***

***"Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good." – Romans 12:21***

**#4 – To give the world an encounter with God.**

***"And my message and my preaching were not in persuasive words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, 5 so that your faith would not rest on the wisdom of men, but on the power of God." – 1 Corinthians 2:4-5***

***Myths About Authority***

**Myth #1: Authority is blasphemous.**

**a) We can only do what Jesus did as a man not as God – i.e. forgive sin**

***24 But, so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins, "He said to the paralytic "I say to you, get up, and pick up your stretcher and go home."***
***-Luke 5:24***

**Myth #2: Signs, wonders and miracles passed away in the first century.**

***8 Love never fails; but if there are gifts of prophecy, they will be done away; if there are tongues, they will cease; if there is knowledge, it will be done away. 9 For we know in part and we prophesy in part; 10 but when the perfect comes, the partial will be done away. -1 Corinthians 13:8-10***

***"Many will say to Me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name cast out demons, and in Your name perform many miracles?'" – Mathew 7:22***

**Myth #3: Sickness/suffering is used by God to teach us things or slow us down.**

**Myth #4: The "Healing" Jesus gave was a healing of sin.**

**Thought:** Why do we believe so strongly that God will give the devil such power and authority to spread evil but that its heresy for God to give His own children power and authority to spread His kingdom?

***Exercising Our Authority***

**#1 – Believe.**

***"For as he thinks in his heart, so is he." – Proverbs 23:7 NKJV***

***"And Jesus said to him, 'If You can?' All things are possible to him who believes." – Mark 9:23***

**#2 – Stand on faith.**

***22 And Jesus answered saying to them, "Have faith in God. 23 Truly I say to you, 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 is going to happen, it will be granted him.24 Therefore I say to you, all things for which you pray and ask, believe that you have received them, and they will be granted you. – Mark 11:22-24***

**#3 – Restfully exercise our authority.**

***29 Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. 30 For My yoke is easy and My burden is light." -Matthew 11:29-30***