Our Throne Rights

Enforcing the Victory of the Lord Jesus over Satan

Eph. 1:19-23 speaks of, ***"His incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is like the working of His mighty strength which He exerted in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly realms, far above all rule and authority, power and dominion and every title that can be given not only in the present age but also in the one to come. And God placed all things under His feet and appointed Him to be head over everything for the church which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills everything in every way."***

The Lord Jesus is head over all principalities, powers, might and dominion and every name that is named in this world and in the world to come. Both His position and His power are supreme. The Risen Lord Jesus is enthroned at God's right hand and He rules "far above" every other force that seeks to control and govern this dark world.

God the Father has, ***"Made us alive with Christ, even when we were dead in transgressions – it is by grace you have been saved. And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with Him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus in order that in the coming ages He might show the incomparable riches of His grace expressed in His kindness to us in Christ Jesus."*** (Eph. 2:5-7)

So through the grace of God, every believer in the Lord Jesus is raised with Him to the right hand of God and potentially occupies the throne of the Lord Jesus. In the purposes of God the Father this 'raising up into heavenly places' took place at the resurrection of the Lord Jesus through the believer's identification with Him.

For the church of believers in the Lord Jesus to stand victoriously in the hour when satanic forces are united against her, every believer must understand his/her place of spiritual authority with the Lord Jesus and fearlessly bind the forces that oppose Him. We must learn what it means that we are **seated in the heavenly realms with the Lord Jesus** far above all the powers of the evil one. We must learn to hold these powers in subjection through faith in the name and authority of the Lord Jesus.

Every believer's place of privilege and authority

We read of the Lord Jesus, ***"Having disarmed the powers and authorities, He made a public spectacle of them triumphing over them by the Cross."*** (Col. 2:15)

Our Lord Jesus has absolute command over all the forces of the evil one and He confers this authority on His disciples. ***"The 72 returned with joy and said, 'Lord, even the demons are subject to us in Your name.' He replied, 'I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. I have given you authority … to overcome all the power of the enemy. Nothing will harm you'."*** (Lk. 10:18-19)

The believer whose eyes have been opened to understand his 'throne rights' in the Lord Jesus learns to exercise this power and influence he/she possesses. The powers of evil are compelled to obey the believer as he/she boldly and in faith exerts authority in the name of the Lord Jesus.

The demonic spiritual forces of evil in the spiritual world don't often yield instantly in obedience, but as believers, we must speak words of authority and overrule the forces of Satan when we see them at work. The powers of darkness will bitterly oppose and resist their own overthrow! They will attack the believer as he seeks to enforce the victory of the Cross over them.

The believer's refuge is under the blood of the Lord Jesus where no force or power of the enemy can penetrate. The Cross has robbed Satan of his power. To overcome him we must present the victory of the Cross and the Resurrection in the face of every attack whether on your church, your ministry, your team, your family, your mind, your soul, your body or your circumstances.

"They overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony. They did not love their lives so much as to shrink from death." (Rev. 12:11)

Satan is a defeated foe. The Lord Jesus overcame him on the Cross. We must enter into His victory by faith. We don't need to fight Satan, but just to hold over him the accomplished triumph of the Cross this is our Father God's provision to enable us to overcome the enemy.

The Challenge of the enemy

This ruling and overruling authority of the Lord Jesus is available to us as believers in the Lord Jesus in-dwelt by the Holy Spirit. It is fatal to try and use any power of our own spirit. Using natural ability to deal with the enemy leads to sure defeat. The enemy's strategy is to entice the believer away from his position of authority and get him frustrated, burdened, confused, depressed or self-occupied.

But the seat of authority is far above the enemy. It is only in union with the Lord Jesus that a believer is secure. By faith ask God to cover every part of your conscious and subconscious being with the blood of the Lord Jesus. Then you are protected and then you can destroy the power of the evil one. It is vital to absolutely refuse to give any place to Satan in whatever form he shows himself in your church, in your home, in your body, your mind or your spirit.

Give no place to Satan

Anything that takes away an attitude of worship, joy and the consciousness of God's presence comes from a satanic source. It is vital to recognise any attempt of the powers of darkness to come near you and to assert victory over them through the work of the Lord Jesus on the Cross. When there is dissension in the church or between churches, in families, among friends etc. we need to recognise that behind the strife, the perplexity and the confusion is our enemy. We need to stand in the victory of the Lord Jesus and call down God's judgement on our enemy.

"And will not God bring about justice for His chosen ones who cry out to Him day and night? Will He keep putting them off? I tell you, He will see that they get justice and quickly. However, when the Son of Man comes, will He find faith on the earth?" (Lk. 18:7-8)

In Eph. 4:27 we read, ***"Do not give the devil a foothold."*** This is God's command. This passage in Ephesians tells us how we should live as 'children of the light'. Eph. 6 tells us how to ***"be strong in the Lord and in His mighty power"***. Are we taking this seriously day by day?

Boldly claim the Victory of Calvary

God has given us the power to tread down the enemy. ***"I tell you the truth, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again I tell you, if two of you on earth agree about anything you ask for, it will be done for you by My Father in heaven. For where two or three come together in My name there am I with them."*** (Mt. 18:18-20)

Satan is a usurper. He has no rights to any place in the life of a believer in the Lord Jesus or in any church. God has given to every believer the responsibility of displacing him. We are to blame if he continues in power. Through His death, the Lord Jesus rendered Satan powerless to withstand the believer who by faith and obedience takes authority over him. This authority is given to us by the Lord Jesus. We must use it. Satan only has the power that we allow him!

To leave Satan unchallenged is to rob the Lord Jesus of His triumph at Calvary. The Lord Jesus says that if we resist the devil he will flee. Many have found this to be true. We need to ask God to help us to understand what it means to resist the devil and to take a seat in the heavenly places at the right hand of the Lord Jesus.

In a certain revival the opposition became so strong it seemed the work would have to shut down. The leader gathered other leaders together with a group of praying people and asked them to stand with him under the blood of the Lord Jesus and to bind the power of the enemy. After a time of praise and prayer they all prayed aloud together, **"In the name of the Lord Jesus and by His authority we bind the 'strong man' from stirring up these people and attacking God's work."** There was no more trouble. The opposition began quarrelling among themselves and their power to oppose the church was broken. Jesus said, ***"How can anyone enter a strong man's house and carry off his possessions unless he first ties up the strong man? Then he can rob his house."*** (Mt. 12:29)

Enforcing these Redemptive Rights in today's world

Many examples show that in every situation where obedient believers in the Lord Jesus claim in faith their 'throne rights' in Christ and boldly assert His authority, they find that none can to stand against Him.

One example is of a mother who was grieved that her child was constantly lying. She learned about the authority of the name of Jesus and quietly but firmly in His name she rebuked the lying spirit and she saw her child delivered.

In one-to-one evangelism it often seems we come up against a brick wall. The person we are talking with seems to be bound and blind to what we are trying to explain. If this is the case, often a quiet attitude of victory over the opposing demonic spirits often brings quick deliverance to the captive.

In another example a Christian full-time worker in the Muslim World was often confronted by a stupefying power coming over his mind and paralysing his will. He was pressed down and perplexed. At first he didn't realise what was happening. He remained passive and helpless. As he prayed, God showed him that this was the devil and he said aloud, **"This is the devil! I resist him in the name and the power of the Lord Jesus who conquered him at the Cross"**.

He felt relief from the oppression on his mind and body. His mind cleared and he became strong to resist. His faith in the victory of the Lord Jesus released him from a mass of perplexing circumstances that had for some years hindered his prayer life as well as his desire to do evangelism.

God's word is clear, ***"Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls round like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Resist him, standing firm in the faith because you know that your brothers throughout the world are undergoing the same kind of sufferings."*** (1 Pet. 5:8-9)

"Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you." (James 4:7)

A devout disciple of the Lord Jesus with a real experience of Him was hounded throughout his life by trouble and misfortune. He had submitted to this as somehow being chastening from God, but one day he heard a talk that clearly unveiled the sinister working of the powers of darkness and he realised he had been deceived.

Others helped him to take a position of authority over these powers of darkness in the name of the Lord Jesus and to challenge them. He was told to assert his rights to obtain employment and to forbid these powers of darkness from obstructing this in any way. It was at this time that the stream of satanic misfortune was broken and by faith in the victory of the Lord Jesus he was able to snatch his life out of the influence of the evil one. He experienced real deliverance and soon after this he was able to get a very good job.

Ruling out evil forces

Sometimes we cry to God to rebuke the enemy and change things. But God has invested us with authority and power on the grounds of the victory of the Lord Jesus on the Cross. A teacher in a classroom was often distressed that one of the students kept getting into a violent temper over relatively trivial matters. This teacher had been on a short course on the need of refusing the work of evil spirits, so he took the authority of the Lord Jesus over these demonic forces of rage and commanded them to leave the place. The student became quiet in a few moments.

This same authority is ours as we move ahead in the task God has given us of reaching the world with the Good News of the Lord Jesus. It is often a strategy of Satan to block Christian work by blocking funds. As believers we have the power to unite together and agree that these barriers must be broken down. Men and women of faith, courage and determination must rise up in our churches and bind these satanic forces that are lined up against the worldwide advance of the Gospel.

Perhaps we are in the last days and the powers of darkness are increasingly conscious of their impending overthrow. They are fiercely resisting on all fronts. We must use our authority over them to assert the final victory of our Lord Jesus. The way we can experience the authority of the Lord Jesus at work in our lives is **to make Him Lord**. The extent to which we make Him Lord is the extent to which we are able, by faith, to enter into a continual, experimental knowledge of this crowning victory that The Lord Jesus has procured for us.