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## The Authority We Have Been Given In Order To Resist The Devil #2

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It is sometimes challenging for believers to know what authority has been given to them regarding the enemy and the tricks that he deceives with. When we have knowledge that has been revealed to us from the Word and we act upon it, we will have the results that we need. We cannot allow ourselves to become so familiar with certain parts of the Word, having mental assent or head knowledge so that we take for granted what is being said, losing our love or respect of the Word. By having revelation knowledge of the Word, it becomes easy for us to receive and believe.

There is no place in scripture that tells us that the believers are to be dominated by the enemy. There is an elevated position of authority that God has given to the believer, God has raised the believer up into heavenly places and the enemy has been placed under their feet. God's plan in the Garden of Eden was that there was never to be any kind of sickness or disease or lack, this only came because of Adam's transgression when sin came in. Sin is always associated with death, but Jesus gives life and goodness.

1 Tim 6:12 "Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses." KJV

In reading the parable of the sower in Luke 8 and Matthew 13 and Mark 4, when the Word is sown, immediately the devil comes to steal the Word. The enemy uses different tactics to pluck out the word, persecution, offenses, affliction, the deceitful of riches never allowing the seed to sprout. The power is in the seed, the Word of God, it has life and answers.

Mark 4:14-20 "The sower soweth the word. 15And these are they by the way side, where the word is sown; but when they have heard, Satan cometh immediately, and taketh away the word that was sown in their hearts. 16And these are they likewise which are sown on stony ground; who, when they have heard the word, immediately receive it with gladness; 17And have no root

in themselves, and so endure but for a time: afterward, when affliction or persecution ariseth for the word's sake, immediately they are offended. 18And these are they which are sown among thorns; such as hear the word, 19And the cares of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, and the lusts of other things entering in, choke the word, and it becometh unfruitful. 20And these are they which are sown on good ground; such as hear the word, and receive it, and bring forth fruit, some thirtyfold, some sixty, and some an hundred." KJV

Paul teaches us how to fight the good fight of faith, to keep what God has given us. Putting on the whole armor, which includes prayer, taking the shield of faith, knowing our righteousness, which doesn't come by works but was given to us as a free gift when we accepted Jesus.

Eph 6:10-12 "Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. 11Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. 12For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places." KJV

Paul tells us where our warfare or resistance will come from. There is an example in Daniel regarding the warfare and resistance that comes from the enemy.

Daniel 10:12-14 "Then said he unto me, Fear not, Daniel: for from the first day that thou didst set thine heart to understand, and to chasten thyself before thy God, thy words were heard, and I am come for thy words. 13But the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me one and twenty days: but, lo, Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me; and I remained there with the kings of Persia. 14Now I am come to make thee understand what shall befall thy people in the latter days: for yet the vision is for many days. " KJV

Matt 16:18 "And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." KJV

These scriptures show the resistance that is against the church. We as believers are going to encounter resistance when we are at a growing place in Jesus, but we are over comers and the devil is under our feet.

2 Cor 2:14 "Now thanks be unto God, which always causeth us to triumph in Christ, and maketh manifest the savour of his knowledge by us in every place." KJV

It is the Word of God acted upon that helps us, prayer is important but doesn't take the place of the Word of God, prayer and the Word work together and in order to stand, we need both.

Eph 6:11 "Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil." KJV

Wiles or method will always involve deceit, trickery or craftiness.

Resist means to oppose, defy, or act against successfully. Resist the adoption of the devils plan. (Adopt is to take the child of another parent as our own.) The devils plan is always to bring us down, to live a subnormal life; this is not God's plan. We are a child of God and not the devil.

1 Pet 5:8-9 "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: 9Whom resist stedfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world." KJV

In Luke 22, Jesus tells Peter that the devils plan wanted to sift or separate him from Jesus and destroy him, but Jesus prayed for Peter to have a turnaround so that he could be used later.

In Matthew, Jesus is praying in the garden, asking his disciples to pray with him, but they went to sleep. Jesus tells us that many times the spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak. Many times our spirits want to do right but our flesh is weak, resisting the devil becomes challenging to us.

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

Submission is something we do willingly; it is an attitude of our hearts. Submit to God in order to be able to resist. By resisting the devil, he will flee from you as in terror. Jesus defeated the enemy and because of this we are able to rise up, the devil sees the same defeat coming again and he runs from us.

Col 2:15 "And having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it" KJV

(Pastor Margaret shared regarding a dream that she had had shortly before having surgery, in which Bro Hagin spoke to her saying that she was going to die. Because of what he had said to her and he was someone she trusted and knew to be a prophet, fear began to gripe her, she tried to process the dream but realized that she had adopted the devil's plan and no matter how many others spoke to her that it was not God, she was unable to get free of the fear that controlled her thought life. By listening to the Word day and night, however, one day she heard Exodus 23:25 "And ye shall serve the LORD your God, and he shall bless thy bread, and thy water; and I will take sickness away from the midst of thee." KJV and it became a rhema word for her. She was also reminded of what the 139th Psalm said; she was able to process the dream and to confess the Word. Later she found out that many had been praying and interceding on her behalf.)

The devils plan is always going to come to us by a thought or through a word from

other people, which is how God's plan usually comes to us also. Many times traditional Christians will question that maybe it is God's will for calamities to happen, this is not God's will, and His will comes through His Word. He has done everything that He is going to do about the devil, He has given that authority to the believer using the name of Jesus. Matthew 28 and Mark 16 speaks of the authority that has been given to the believer as does the following scriptures.

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

Eph 4:27 "Neither give place to the devil." KJV

Eph 6:10 "Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might." KJV

Many times we put up with things that we don't have to put up with, because we don't understand the plan of God. God restored through Jesus everything to mankind that had been lost to Satan. It is a challenge to walk in sometimes, but Deuteronomy 11 tells us, that "our days on earth would be as days of heaven on the earth because of the Word of God."

John 10:10 "The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly." KJV

1 Pet 5:8-9 "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: 9Whom resist steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world." KJV

A double minded man as mentioned in James 1, says that nothing will be received if not ask in faith. You must ask in faith, standing steadfast in order to receive.

The devil usually comes with a thought or as an angel of light; this is how his demons will come also. The importance of processing what you hear when it comes as a thought is very important to us. There was a pastor's wife who listened to the thoughts that came to her, went from being in her head as thoughts, into her heart which she acted upon and they led to her downfall.

God does not tempt us, but will with a temptation make a way of escape. Temptations come from the enemy and should be dealt with accordingly.

1 Cor 10:13 "There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it." KJV

The spirit of God and the Word of God are always in agreement, there is no disharmony in them. We must speak to the adversary and we will overcome as spoken of in Revelation 12, "they overcome by the blood of the lamb and the word of their testimony." We are not always in a position to speak the word out loud, but we can speak it on the inside of us. Rebuking the enemy and resisting him steadfast in the faith.

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The following is in regards to the teaching on offering and tithing part #3.

What is God's plan in our finances? Does He want to bless us and how is He able to do so? God's plan is that we have substance, something to honor Him with and that there be an increase. First fruits would be the tithe, the result of having plenty.

Pro 3:9-10 "Honour the LORD with thy substance, and with the firstfruits of all thine increase: 10So shall thy barns be filled with plenty, and thy presses shall burst out with new wine." KJV

Jacob was an example of being blessed after he had honored God with first fruits. He went to Laban's with nothing and returned 20 years later with a large family and many possessions. Jacob had told the Lord that if He (the Lord) would take care of him, protect and bless him (Jacob) that he would give God a tenth of everything. Jacob was faithful to the vow that he had made to God.

Mal 3:10-11 "Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it. 11And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground; neither shall your vine cast her fruit before the time in the field, saith the LORD of hosts" KJV

We do not have to tithe, it is our choice or decision, but we should realize that there is a power in tithing. Tithing is showing our love for God and all that He has blessed us with. God's plan is to bless us with an abundant amount, opening the windows of heaven and pouring out all that He has for us, not just a small amount or a trickle, but a flood amount overflowing that can't be contained. This is the power of tithing. Tithing is not just about money, but all areas of our lives, every part that our life touches.

These foundation scriptures are from previous teachings.

2 Cor 8:9. "For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich" KJV

Deut 8:13-14,18 "And when thy herds and thy flocks multiply, and thy silver and thy gold is

multiplied, and all that thou hast is multiplied; 14Then thine heart be lifted up, and thou forget the LORD thy God, which brought thee forth out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage; 18 But thou shalt remember the LORD thy God: for it is he that giveth thee power to get wealth, that he may establish his covenant which he sware unto thy fathers, as it is this day"  
KJV

Phil 4:19 "But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus." KJV