

March 4, 2018

Don't Adopt The Enemies Plan #7 - Believers Authority

Pastor Charles Mendenhall

Our previous teachings have been on how to refuse to adopt the enemies plan, but today we are going to move into teaching of the authority that has been given to believer. The following scriptures teach us about what has been given and the importance of the name of Jesus, and how at that name every knee will bow, not only on earth, but under the earth and in heaven. Every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord. This does not mean that everyone hearing the name of Jesus will be saved, but they will realize the authority in that name and because of that name, Jesus Christ is Lord.

James tells us that the demons recognize the name of Jesus and they tremble at His presence. The church has not walked in the authority of the power of the name.

Phil 2:9-11 "Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: 10 That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; 11 And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father." KJV

This scripture is a review of the previous teachings we have had. Paul has taught us in the earlier verses that we have been elevated to a higher place, then, we were taught the more practical things, such as learning to walk in love, forgiveness like God forgives, our lifestyle and our relationship with Him and others, and the marriage relationship, however, if we are going to be a partaker of what God has promised in these previous verses, then we will have to learn how to be strong in the Lord with a supernatural ability working in us, able to withstand and resist the attacks of the enemy when he comes. The devil has a settled plan or purpose to work against us, but we must stand again those *wiles which are usually concealed.

Eph 6:10-14 "Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the *power of his might. 11 Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the *wiles of the devil. 12 For 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. 13 Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. 14 Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness;" KJV

*power has been given to us, we are to deal with it, authority has been taken away from the devil at the cross, we now have the authority

* wiles means plans or purpose, trickery, deceit or craftiness

Many of us did not have previous teaching regarding the authority that has been given to us, the name of Jesus. Most of us thought that Jesus would do everything for us that needed to be done, but that is incorrect, the authority, the name of Jesus, has been given to us and it is our responsibility to use that authority or name, speak to those demonic things which arise in our lives, Jesus has done all that He is going to do, it is up to us now.

Most of us never heard a sermon on the authority of the believer, we did not hear about the bible kind of faith, that our faith enables us to overcome, which makes us whole, we were usually taught that if we would just pray about the devil then God or Jesus would take care of the situation. We did not have knowledge or understanding of the new covenant, we knew nothing about it.

We have a new covenant, everything was done when Jesus was crucified, buried and resurrected. He went into the bowels of hell and took the authority away from the devil that had been given to him and that authority has now been given to us. He ascended into heaven, is seated at the right hand of the Father and if we are born again, we have been given that same place with Him, and the authority that goes with it.

God has invested authority in us based on the finished work of Jesus Christ on the cross. His death on the cross and His descention into the bowels of the earth and defeating the devil there, taking the keys of death and hell from him, resurrecting victorious over him, and seated down at the right hand of the Father, all things being under His feet. Jesus is setting there waiting for the church to put all things under their feet.

Satan was judged when Jesus was put on the cross and his authority that he had was taken away from him, he is now under the feet of Jesus and the church. He is still god

of this world and is the prince of the power of the air, but the absolute authority that he had, is in submission to a greater authority, which is the name of Jesus Christ.

We are like the law enforcement officers who have been given a badge which gives them authority over the traffic and at any time when needed, they are able to enforce that authority by raising their hand to the traffic. We have been given a badge of authority that the Father God has invested in us to carry out business here in the earth, live a kingdom life because of what Jesus has done and on our badge would be the name of Jesus, giving us the authority.

Bro. Hagin described a vision that he had with Jesus and how a demonic spirit tried to interfere, putting out a smoke screen which caused Bro. Hagin to not be able to see Jesus and then began making excessive noise causing Bro. Hagin to not be able to discern what Jesus was saying to him. After a few minutes Bro. Hagin spoke to the spirit, commanded that it leave and it did. Bro. Hagin asked Jesus why he had not told the thing to leave, at which time Jesus told him that if Bro. Hagin had not dealt with it, that He was not able to. Bro. Hagin was taken aback, he questioned Jesus why He couldn't? and Jesus gave him the reason and scriptures to back up what he was saying. Bro. Hagin realized that the authority had been given to the church and the believers at the time of the cross and Jesus now being seated at the right hand of God had done all that was necessary and it was the churches responsibility to take action.

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: 9 Whom *resist stedfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world." KJV

v. 9 our responsibility - *resist to adopt a plan, oppose something and be successful at it

This scripture shows the primary reason that the enemy has come to the believers. But Jesus came to give life, enjoyed to the full. Don't give the devil an open door or even a crack in order to get into your lives. Don't let the enemy get us into a place that we are following after our flesh and not after the spirit. Don't adopt his plan, but accomplish Gods plan for your lives.

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

James 4:6-7 "But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth

grace unto the *humble. 7 Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you." KJV

*humility means we can't do it in our own strength so we will trust God, is always associated with strength

v. 6 *grace - supernatural in the power of His might, more and more grace, the power of the Holy Spirit to meet any evil temptation

v. 7 submit - if we are in rebellion we cannot submit ourselves to God or some authority that has been set in the earth, rebellion has to be confessed and repented of first and the devil will then run as in terror from us

James 4:6-7 "But He gives us *more and more grace (power of the Holy Spirit, to meet this evil tendency and all others fully). That is why He says, God sets Himself against the proud and haughty, but gives grace [continually] to the lowly (those who are humble enough to receive it). 7 So be subject to God. Resist the devil [stand firm against him], and he will flee from you." AMP

Because of the authority given to us, we have the power to run over the adversary in any area, it is a supernatural thing. Being supernaturally infused with strength through our union with Jesus. Stand victorious because there is a explosive power flowing through us.

Eph 6:10 "Now my beloved ones, I have saved these most important truths for last: Be supernaturally infused with strength through your life-union with the Lord Jesus. Stand victorious with the force of his explosive power flowing in and through you." PASSION

When the devil sees the believers infused with the explosive power that has been given to them, the devil is reminded that he has been defeated in the bowels of the earth, the devil and the demons thought they had conquered Him and but if they had known the plan of God, they would never have gone the way of the cross, crucifying Him, that caused them to be defeated. Not only was Jesus raised the dead, but He gave to the believer that same authority over the devil. The devil is not dealing with just one person, Jesus, but with the born again believers everywhere that have begun to have that authority.

The following two scriptures in Ephesians chapters 1 and 3 are prayers that can be prayed for ourselves and others. Paul is praying for the believers in these verses. God wants us to have a spirit of seeing and knowing.

Eph 1:16-23 "Cease not to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers; 17 That the

God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him: 18 The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints, 19 And what is the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power, 20 Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places, 21 Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come: 22 And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church, 23 Which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all." KJV

Eph 3:14-21 "For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, 15 Of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, 16 That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man; 17 That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, 18 May be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; 19 And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God. 20 Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us, 21 Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen." KJV

Eph 2:6 "And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus: " KJV

God is wanting the church to know the power, the authority of the name of Jesus that they have, because of what happened at the cross and in the bowels of the earth. The devil and his demons thought that they had Jesus but they were defeated and when God said "that it is enough" and snatched Jesus out of hell, He was triumphant because the price had been paid.

We are now seated with Jesus at the right hand of the Father, the devil being made a footstool for our feet, but the responsibility is ours to put him there. The name of Jesus gives us that authority, He has paid the price on Calvary, took the keys to death and hell away from the devil, the authority that Adam had given to him in the Garden of Eden is now our authority. The devil still has authority over this earth, but no longer over the believers.

We are the body of Christ, He is the head and the body is not detached. Paul brings the revelation to our attention the authority of the believer and the more we hear about the authority of the believer, the higher percentage comes of us walking in it, we will have many opportunities to walk in that kind of authority, we are not going

to adopt the devils plan, but will adopt Gods plan, sometimes it is challenging, but Gods plan walks in love and forgiveness, these are not easy and requires a supernatural strength to walk in the love of God. We declare that the devil will not devour us, but we will walk steadfast in the faith.