

The Believer and Delegated Authority Part 2

(Two perspectives)

Perspective #1

Hello everyone!

Let's dive into Part 2 of "The Believer and Delegated Authority." If you've been following along, we're continuing to explore how God equips His people to live in readiness, maintain their spiritual condition, and exercise authority. It's pretty exciting stuff, so let's break it down casually.

Quick Recap from Part 1:

- God calls us to align our lives with His purpose.
- We're meant to maintain our spiritual condition through faith, studying the Bible, and using our delegated authority.
- Lack of knowledge, especially about our authority, can lead to defeat. But hey, we're here to change that!

Delegated Authority Basics

God has given us authority as believers to act in His name and reflect Jesus.

John 14:12-14 makes it crystal clear: if we believe in Him, we'll do the works He did—and even greater ones! That's a bold promise, but it's ours to claim.

Here's how we grow in understanding delegated authority:

- 1. Prayer:** Talk to God—whether in your natural language or heavenly prayer language (tongues).
- 2. Study:** Dig into the Word—it's our manual.
- 3. Teachings:** Seek accurate, biblical teachings.
- 4. Action:** Apply what we learn and trust God's promises.

A Real-Life Example

This week, I was in a store when a lady started yelling at an employee for about five minutes. The situation was intense, but I felt led to take authority in the spirit realm.

After taking authority (*speaking softly*), the atmosphere shifted, the lady calmed down and even seemed happy. It was like nothing had happened! That's the power of delegated authority in action.

Here's the deal: Jesus left us an inheritance when He died for us. This inheritance includes His authority, the ability to use His name, and power over darkness.

We're **heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ (Romans 8:17)**. That means we're equipped to handle situations like this—whether expected or unexpected.

What Does This Mean for Us?

- **We have authority:** **Luke 10:19** reminds us we've been given power over all the enemy's schemes. That's huge!

- **We're delivered from darkness:** **Colossians 1:12-14** says we've been transferred into Jesus' kingdom. Amen to that!

- **We're called to act:** Even when situations catch us off guard (like my store moment), we're equipped to respond.

Jesus as Our Example

When Jesus exercised authority over Satan, He was dealing with a **spirit being** He couldn't physically see. Same goes for us—we're dealing with **unseen forces of darkness**.

Matthew 16:21-23 shows how Jesus rebuked Satan when Peter unknowingly spoke words influenced by him. Jesus called it out directly because Satan's goal is always to trap, tempt, and oppose believers.

Here's what "offense" means in this context:

- It's like a trap with bait—Satan uses temptations to lure us in.
- He aims to neutralize believers, cause sin, displeasure, opposition, or entrapment.

1 Peter 5:8 paints a vivid picture of Satan as a roaring lion seeking someone to devour. But don't worry, we're not powerless against him. We've got the tools and authority to stand firm.

What Should We Do?

- Stay vigilant and spiritually alert.
- Use the name of Jesus and the authority given to us.
- Don't fall for traps or temptations—recognize them for what they are.
- Remember **Acts 10:38**—Jesus went about doing good and healing those oppressed by the devil. We're called to do the same.

This is just the beginning of understanding how powerful delegated authority is for believers.

There's more to unpack, but for now, let's walk confidently knowing that God has equipped us for victory.

Perspective #2

The Believer and Delegated Authority: Part 2

As believers, we are called to live a life of readiness, maintaining our spiritual condition and preparing to fulfill our God-given functions.

In Part 1 of this teaching, we explored the foundational aspects of delegated authority, emphasizing the importance of faith, studying the Bible, and exercising our authority.

Now, we delve deeper into the subject, seeking to understand how we can effectively operate in the authority that has been entrusted to us by God.

Maintaining Spiritual Readiness

God calls His people to maintain their spiritual structure and condition, ensuring they are equipped for the tasks ahead.

This involves continual growth in faith, diligent study of Scripture, and active engagement with the authority we have been given.

One critical factor that can lead to defeat is a lack of knowledge—specifically, a lack of understanding regarding our delegated authority.

Hosea 4:6 reminds us, "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge." Therefore, gaining insight into this authority is not optional; it is **essential**.

Understanding Delegated Authority

Delegated authority refers to the **power** and **responsibility** God has given His children to act on His behalf.

Jesus demonstrated this authority during His earthly ministry, and He expects believers to follow His example. **John 14:12-14** clearly states that those who believe in Him will do the works He did—and even greater works—because He has gone to the Father.

This promise underscores the vast potential of operating in delegated authority.

To deepen our understanding of delegated authority, we must engage in four key practices:

1. Prayer (Normal language) – Communicating with God regularly strengthens our relationship with Him and aligns our hearts with His purposes.

2. Prayer (Heavenly prayer language/tongues) – Praying in tongues allows us to connect with God on a spiritual level, accessing divine wisdom and power.

3. Study – The Bible serves as our manual for understanding authority and its application in daily life.

4. Accurate teachings – Seeking sound biblical instruction equips us to discern truth and apply it effectively.

Exercising Authority Over Darkness

One significant aspect of delegated authority is confronting the kingdom of darkness. Jesus consistently exercised authority over Satan and his works, and **as His followers, we are called to do the same.**

In **Matthew 16:21-23**, Jesus rebuked Peter when he unknowingly became an offense to Him, saying, "Get behind Me, Satan!" This demonstrates that **Jesus recognized the spiritual influence** behind Peter's words and addressed it directly.

Similarly, believers must understand that Satan and his demons operate as unseen spiritual forces aiming to entrap, oppose, and neutralize us.

The **Greek definition** of "offense" in **Matthew 16:23** refers to the trigger of a trap designed to cause entrapment.

Satan uses **temptations as bait** to lead believers into sin, opposition, or spiritual stagnation.

To counteract these tactics, we must remain vigilant and sober-minded (**1 Peter 5:8**).

A Practical Testimony

This week, I experienced a situation that required exercising delegated authority. While waiting in line at a store, I encountered a woman who was yelling at an employee for several minutes.

The atmosphere was tense and disruptive. Recognizing the need for intervention, I took spiritual authority over the situation in Jesus' name.

Within minutes, the woman calmed down and began acting as if nothing had happened.

This testimony illustrates the practical application of delegated authority. By speaking the name of Jesus and standing firm in faith, I was able to bring peace to a chaotic situation.

As believers, we have access to this same authority as part of our inheritance in Christ.

The Inheritance of Believers

Understanding our inheritance is crucial for operating in delegated authority.

When Jesus died, His "**will**" was activated, transferring His possessions and power to those who accept Him as Lord and Savior.

Hebrews 1:1-2 declares that Jesus is the **heir of all things**, and **Galatians 4:7** affirms that believers are **joint heirs with Christ**.

This inheritance includes:

- The name of Jesus – **Acts 3:6** demonstrates the power of Jesus' name when Peter healed a man by declaring, "In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, walk."
- Authority over darkness – **Luke 10:19** reminds us that Jesus has given us authority to trample on serpents and scorpions and overcome all the power of the enemy.
- Deliverance from darkness – **Colossians 1:12-14** states that God has delivered us from the dominion of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of His beloved Son.

Living Out Delegated Authority

Exercising delegated authority requires readiness both in season and out of season (**2 Timothy 4:2**).

It involves reflecting God's character and demonstrating His power in every situation.

Acts 10:38 provides a model for this lifestyle: "How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil."

The **Greek definitions** of "**healing**" (NT:2390) and "**oppressed**" (NT:2616) shed light on this process:

- Healing refers to restoring something to its correct or preferable state.
- Oppression involves exercising harsh control or power against someone.

When believers confront oppression using their delegated authority, they participate in God's work of restoration and deliverance.

Recognizing Satan's Strategies

Satan operates through designs, wiles, tricks, intentions, and devices aimed at deceiving believers.

However, we are not called to be ignorant of his schemes (**2 Corinthians 2:11**).

By understanding his job description—placing traps, using bait, causing entrapment—we can remain vigilant against his attacks.

Matthew 16:21-23 provides insight into how Satan operates as an offense.

He seeks to cause displeasure, sin, opposition, and entrapment. Yet Jesus demonstrated how to confront these tactics head-on by exercising spiritual authority.

Conclusion

As believers, we are entrusted with delegated authority to reflect God's power and confront the works of darkness.

This authority is part of our inheritance through Christ—a gift activated by His death and resurrection.

By maintaining spiritual readiness through prayer, study, and accurate teachings, we can effectively operate in this authority.

The example set by Jesus serves as our blueprint for living out delegated authority.

Whether addressing spiritual opposition or bringing peace to chaotic situations, we are called to demonstrate God's character and power in **all** circumstances.

Let us remain vigilant against Satan's schemes while boldly exercising our authority in Christ.

As we continue to grow in knowledge and faith, we will fulfill our calling to do the works of Jesus—and even greater works—bringing glory to God.

Catch you next time as we continue this journey!

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