

PRAYING WITH AUTHORITY

(HOW GOD HAS EQUIPPED US TO PRAY FOR THE UNSAVED)

Luke 11:14-26



SATAN'S KINGDOM OVERPOWERED

- ◆ JESUS INVADED IT
- ◆ JESUS OVERCAME IT
- ◆ JESUS CLAIMED IT

“When a stronger than he shall come upon him and overcome him, he taketh from him all his armor wherein he trusted and divideth his spoils.” (Luke 11:22)

Bill Kirk

PRAYING WITH AUTHORITY

Luke 11:14-26

“But until someone even stronger attacks and overpowers him, strips him of his weapons, and carries off his belongings.” (Luke 11:22)

INTRODUCTION

- ◆ In V.14, Jesus encounters a man possessed of the devil.
- ◆ In V.15, The religious leaders accuse Jesus of casting out demons by the power of Satan.

Jesus said this was foolish for two reasons:

1. “No Enemy Fights Against Himself”
 - ◆ “Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation.” (V. 17)
 - ◆ “If Satan can be divided against himself, how shall his kingdom stand?” (V. 18)
2. “Your Own Sons Would Be Guilty”
 - ◆ “And if I am empowered by Satan, what about your own exorcists? They cast out demons, too, so they will condemn you for what you have said.” (V. 19)
 - ◆ Or, if I am casting out Satan by Satan, then your ‘own sons’ (or other Jewish exorcists) are also casting out demons in the power of Satan (and the scribes were not about to admit to this).

Fact: Jesus then reveals three absolutes to base all authority on in our praying.

Fact: Jesus reveals to us the power of praying in faith to rescue the unsaved.

I. Jesus Has Invaded Satan’s Kingdom (V. 20)

“But if I am casting out demons by the power of God, then the Kingdom of God has arrived among you.” (V. 20)

Fact: Jesus says that Satan has a kingdom.

Fact: That kingdom is this present world system behind the unsaved.

“You used to live in sin, just like the rest of the world, obeying the devil—the commander of the powers in the unseen world. He is the spirit at work in the hearts of those who refuse to obey God.” (Ephesians 2:2)

The bad news is: that Satan controls and uses the body of the unbeliever to carry out his evils deeds. (Satan’s house and palace are the bodies of unbelievers).

The good news is: That Jesus has come right into (and invaded) Satan’s kingdom, by coming into your life and mine at salvation.

In Other Words

1. Jesus has **invaded** Satan's "house" and "palace".
2. Jesus has set **free** the people that Satan once guarded.
3. Jesus has exercised **authority** by freeing you from the dominion of evil.

II. Jesus Has Overcome Satan's Kingdom (Vs. 21,22)

"For when a strong man is fully armed and guards his palace, his possessions are safe until someone even stronger attacks and overpowers him, strips him of his weapons, and carries off his belongings." (Vs.21,22)

- ◆ In V. 21, Satan is pictured as "a strong man armed."
- ◆ In. V.15, Satan is called "Beelzebub" (which means "the chief of devils")

(But The Good News Is)

- ◆ That Jesus has "overcome" Satan's kingdom:
"Until someone even stronger attacks and overpowers him, strips him of his weapons, and carries off his belongings." (V. 22)

In Other Words

1. Jesus has overcome the **power** of Satan in all who believe.
2. Jesus has overcome every **evil** influence that is against you.
3. Jesus has overcome at **Calvary** the authority of devils and demons to control people.

"The time for judging this world has come, when Satan, the ruler of this world, will be cast out. And when I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw everyone to myself." He said this to indicate how he was going to die. (John 12:31-33)

III. Jesus Has Claimed Satan's Kingdom (V. 22B)

"...Strips him of his weapons, and carries off his belongings." (V. 22)

Which Means

1. Satan's armor has been dismantled!
 - ◆ Fear, accusations, condemnation, lies, etc.
2. Satan's spoil had been reclaimed!

"And carries off his spoils." (V. 22B) means:

- ◆ Jesus has legal right to claim the spoil.

And the spoil in our text:

- ◆ Are the people who are unsaved (and are under Satan's control).

"I will give him the honors of a victorious soldier, because he exposed himself to death. He was counted among the rebels. He bore the sins of many and interceded for rebels." (Isaiah 53:12)

"For he has rescued us from the kingdom of darkness and transferred us into the Kingdom of his dear Son." (Colossians 1:13)

In plain and simple terms:

1. We've been given (by God), the **legal** authority to pray for the salvation of unsaved souls.
2. We've been given (by God), the **power** to bind Satan in the name of Jesus.
3. We've been given (by God), the **responsibility** to pray and see unbelievers released from darkness.
4. We've been given by (God), the **joy** of using the one weapon whereby Satan is defeated (the weapon of prayer).
5. We've been given (by God), the **privilege** of joining Him in His service to reclaim the property that Satan has been holding.

REMEMBER

"We use God's mighty weapons, not worldly weapons, to knock down the strongholds of human reasoning and to destroy false arguments. We destroy every proud obstacle that keeps people from knowing God. We capture their rebellious thoughts and teach them to obey Christ." (II Corinthians 10:4,5)

Amen!
Bill Kirk