



RESURRECTION CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES

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EVANGELIZING THE HEART OF THE BELIEVER

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Letters of Faith

“...God blessed them; and God said to them, ‘Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth, and *subdue it*; and rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky, and over every living thing that moves on the earth.’”

(Gen. 1:28 NASB, emphasis added)

“And He called the twelve together, and gave them *power and authority* over all the demons, and to heal diseases.” (Luke 9:1, emphasis added)

Dear Beloved,

When God created man in the garden, He commissioned them and blessed them with three assignments. First, and this is the fun part, we are to populate the earth. Second, and this is the part that is so strongly misunderstood and resisted today by the preservationists, we are to subdue the earth—that is to subject it to our use. And third, and this is the part the Church has not grown into yet, we are to rule over every living creature on the earth. God ordained His holy human creation to subdue and to rule.

But man chose to respond to the lies of Satan over obedience to and fellowship with God, our Creator, and Satan grabbed these commissions and defiled them and warped them and usurped them until the Day of the Lord—the day Jesus purchased them back for us with His life on the cross. The account of Jesus’ ministry here on earth as a human being, rightly related to God, is full of Him demonstrating what redeemed man can and should do—subdue and rule.

Even before the cross, Jesus gave His disciples power and authority to minister deliverance and healing in His Name (Luke 9:1). His whole teaching ministry was demonstrating what they would be able to do, and what they were expected to do, in the arenas of subduing and ruling when they were fully empowered by Holy Spirit after His resurrection.

It is fascinating to us that God’s first commission and ordination to mankind in the garden was for “subduing and ruling” in Genesis, and was repeated as “power” (needed to subdue) and “authority” (needed to rule) in the New Testament. His last words to His faithful followers, after His resurrection and as He was ascending into heaven were: **“...All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”** (Matthew 28:18-20 NASB) His commission and instruction to them, and therefore to each of us, was to wait until they received the power of Holy Spirit and then to go everywhere with that power and make more disciples, heal, and deliver just like He did, knowing that He would be with them with all His authority.

The apostle John heard the culmination of this proclaimed as we can read in Revelation 12:10: **“And I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, ‘Now the salvation, and the power, and the kingdom of our God and the authority of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren has been thrown down, he who accuses them before our God day and night.’”** We are seeing this take place in ministries around the world where saints are coming together in unity of the Spirit and pulling down the spirits that foster the accusing of the brethren. Christian communities with apostolic leadership that are establishing an environment of mutually honoring each member of the Body of Christ, instead of building a worldly system of traditional hierarchical government structure, are experiencing this release of power and authority.

The apostle Paul prayed for each of us to walk in this Holy Spirit power and authority in Ephesians 1:18-21: **“I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened, so that you will know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, and what is the surpassing greatness of His power toward us who believe. These are in accordance with the working of the strength of His might which He brought about in Christ, when He raised Him from the dead, and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age, but also in the one to come.”** Paul also proclaimed: **“For the kingdom of God does not consist in words, but in power.”** (1 Cor. 4:20)

There are more occasions than we can count where God’s power and authority have brought deep healing, awesome deliverance, and divine revelation during our prayer ministry here at Eagles Nest Farm. These experiences of Jesus’ lordship and love are what keep us fired up to continue ministering in confident expectation of His moving and shaking, His healing and blessing, and His transforming and establishing His kids who come here to receive from Him. But we recently experienced a different dimension of His empowering that was a major blessing to us both.

I, Paul, was driving down our mile and three-quarters long driveway to get into town to renew my driver’s license before it expired. I came upon a wind-toppled tree that completely blocked my way. A huge elm tree had been uprooted from the rain soaked soil and its trunk and large branches made an impenetrable wall across the drive. I returned to our house to get our work truck and chain saws and let Gretel know that I would be delayed, but hopefully could still make the motor vehicle office in time. But when I got back to the road block, I realized the full magnitude of the job of clearing a path through that enormous tree.

I said: Lord, there is no way I have the strength and stamina to cut through all these branches and haul them off the road. I need Your empowering to get through!”

As I started to saw through branch after branch, and lift, and pull, and drag them off the road, I experienced the power of God rise up in me that gave me the strength and stamina I required. I was huffing and puffing and sweating, but I felt the inner and physical strength in me rise to the challenge and I kept going until I finally cleared the road—a full hour later.

Not only did Holy Spirit empower me physically to clear that obstacle, but I didn't have any muscle aches and pains the next few days. And that is an attention-getter for those of you who are on the high side of seventy!

While I was putting the chain saws back into our truck, I realized I had just experienced the fulfillment of my flash prayer, and a scripture I vaguely remembered about God providing the strength we need for what lies ahead of us each day as we put our faith and trust in Him. That evening while I was testifying to Alexis, our radically spiritual daughter, she came up with the scripture: "...may your strength match the length of your days!" (Deut. 33:25b NLT)

The next day she e-mailed us the following note which, as I am sure you will understand, further stirred up our praise and thanksgiving to our faithful Lord God for such extravagant goodness to this old man:

"Dear Mom and Dad—I am overwhelmed with gratefulness to our Jesus for helping Dad with that downed tree yesterday! What an incredible parable of God's grace and strength when we need it to get through all the obstacles of life.

*"During my morning prayer and praise time I found a FAX I sent you on March 21st with parts of Zechariah 10:5-7 which say: **"They will be as mighty men...and they will fight, for the LORD will be with them... For I am the Lord their God... and I will answer them... Indeed, their children will see it and be glad, their heart will rejoice in the LORD."** That sounds just like what happened, Dad! You were the mighty man strengthened by the Lord with you... you overcame age, reason, logic, and discouragement and you fought to overcome that tree blocking your way! And Jesus answered your cry and came along side of you and the power of Holy Spirit rose up within you and put you on like a glove and strengthened you! And I, your child, am glad and rejoicing in the Lord because of it!"*

Now we all understand that this isn't the main thrust of Jesus' spiritual proclamations of His power and authority being with us as we disciple the world, but it was a very real experience of this truth and of His power enveloping us when we desperately need it—spiritually or physically. We think it is a really cool testimony! And to hear that an amazing thing God did to and through me blessed our daughter was an extraordinary blessing to both of us!

"Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly beyond all that we ask or think, according to the power that works within us, to Him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations forever and ever. Amen."
(Eph. 3:20-21)

Huge Haglin Hugs!

