

SERMON OUTLINE

SERMON TITLE: Strength Through Authority

SERMON REFERENCE: Luke 7:1-10

LWF SERMON NUMBER: #1944

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- 1) INTRODUCTION
 - a) Many Christians are living defeated lives today.
 - i) But that need not be you, if you will discover the wonderful truth of kingdom authority.
 - b) Luke 7:1-9
 - i) The Lord Jesus marveled at this man.
 - ii) The Lord Jesus said that this man had more faith than all of the sons of Abraham.
 - iii) This is significant, and we need to pay attention to it.
 - (1) Luke 7:9-10
 - c) Satan will do all that he can do to keep us from learning the truth about the kingdom authority we have in the Lord Jesus Christ.
 - i) God did not create us to be victims of Satan, to live crushed and defeated lives.
 - ii) To the contrary, our Lord expects us to reign.
 - (1) We are to have victory over Satan in this day and in this age.
 - d) When God created Adam and Eve and put them in the Garden, He told them to have dominion.
 - i) Genesis 1:28
 - ii) "Dominion" means that they are to reign and to rule.
 - e) But Adam and Eve disobeyed God and yielded everything to Satan.
 - i) They lost their dominion.
 - ii) Rather than having their dominion, they became slaves to Satan.
 - f) When Adam rebelled against Heaven, he lost his authority on Earth.
 - i) Adam became a slave to Satan, and a child of a slave is a slave, also.
 - (1) Therefore, all of those who are in Adam became slaves of Satan.
 - g) The Lord Jesus Christ, the last Adam, came to this Earth and won back for us the victory that the first Adam lost.
 - i) If we don't understand this, then no matter how true it is, it will do us no good.
 - (1) There are some who have not yet learned of our emancipation in the Lord Jesus and of our kingdom authority, and there are others who think it sounds too good to be true.
 - (2) The truth does not set us free if we don't know the truth.
 - (a) John 8:31-32
 - ii) Knowing the truth about kingdom authority, which we lost in Adam but got back in Christ, helps us overcome Satan now in this life (not in the world to come).
 - (1) Romans 5:17
 - (a) We shall reign in life right now; not just in the sweet by and by.
 - h) Luke 7:8
 - i) This centurion was a very important man in the Roman army.
 - ii) Even though he was an officer, there was a general over him and an emperor over the general.

- iii) He understood that he was under authority; therefore, he had authority.
 - (1) Because he was under authority, he was over those who were under him.
 - i) Luke 7:9
 - i) The Lord Jesus marveled.
 - ii) This centurion understood kingdom authority.
 - j) We need to understand this same kingdom authority.
 - i) Authority means the official, legal right to act.
 - k) In today's message, we will learn four things about kingdom authority from this passage in the book of Luke.
- 2) THE SOURCE OF KINGDOM AUTHORITY (LUKE 7:8)
 - a) All authority comes from above.
 - i) We have to be under authority to have authority.
 - b) Luke 7:8
 - c) Since authority comes from above, any authority that we may hold is no better or stronger than the one who is over us.
 - i) We must have someone to back up the authority that we hold.
 - (1) For instance, in a disturbance, a police officer comes in the name of the law.
 - (a) We are to pray in the name of Jesus.
 - (2) The police officer gets his authority because he has been commissioned.
 - (3) Behind that badge is the police department of the city.
 - (4) Behind the police department of the city is the state militia.
 - (5) Behind the state militia is the National Guard and the forces of the United States.
 - (a) That one police officer is backed up by incredible authority.
 - d) The reason God's children have authority is because of the Lord who is over them.
 - e) 1 John 4:17
 - i) As Jesus is, so are we because we are in Him and He is in us.
 - (1) This is the doctrine of identification.
 - (a) When He died, we died with Him.
 - (i) When He died, He died for us; so, we died with Him.
 - (b) When He rose, we rose with Him.
 - (i) We are identified, united with Him in resurrection.
 - (ii) Romans 6:5
 - (iii) When He died, He gave Himself for us; and then He rose to give Himself to us.
 - 1. We have resurrection life.
 - (c) When Jesus ascended, we ascended with Him.
 - (i) The Bible teaches that we are seated with the Lord Jesus.
 - 1. Ephesians 1:17-21, 2:6

- (ii) Jesus' victory is our victory.
 - f) The authority comes from Jesus, and we are united with Jesus in His death, burial, resurrection, ascension and enthronement.
 - i) Jesus has dominion over Satan.
 - ii) Jesus has authority over demons.
 - iii) As believers, we are in Jesus.
 - iv) If Satan and demons are subject to Jesus, then they must be subject to us.
 - (1) This is not about us and our importance; it's about Jesus.
 - (a) 1 John 4:17
 - v) Because of what Jesus has done and because of His victory, we have victory in the Lord Jesus Christ.
 - g) We need to understand what the relationship of Jesus Christ to the church truly is.
 - i) The church is not a business with Jesus as the president.
 - ii) The church is a body with Jesus as the head.
 - (1) We are organically related to the Lord Jesus Christ.
 - (a) His life is in us.
 - iii) Matthew 28:18-20
 - (1) Jesus has the authority, and He has given us the power of attorney to act for Him.
 - h) 1 Peter 3:22
- 3) THE SECRET OF KINGDOM AUTHORITY (LUKE 7:8)
- a) Luke 7:8
 - i) The centurion was under authority, so he had people under him.
 - b) The secret of kingdom authority is that we cannot be over until we are under.
 - i) We cannot have authority until we get under the authority that is over us.
 - c) All authority is linked to obedience.
 - i) Why would someone give us authority to act for him if we are disobedient to him?
 - (1) This is why Satan endeavored to get Adam to disobey.
 - (a) When Adam disobeyed, he forfeited his authority.
 - d) Our generation today doesn't like to be under authority.
 - i) Pop culture and music have a defiant message to resist authority.
 - ii) Entertainment makes fun of authority figures, including fathers.
 - e) We don't want anyone to be over us, but God does not give kingdom authority to rebels.
 - i) As an illustration, when teaching someone to drive, the first thing you show them is the brake.
 - (1) If they are not interested in learning how to make the vehicle stop, then you certainly aren't interested in teaching them how to make it go.

- ii) If we do not know the restraint of the Holy Spirit, then we will never know the release of the Spirit.
 - iii) The reason many people don't have kingdom authority is because they have not learned how to be under; therefore, they will not be over.
 - f) God has authority everywhere.
 - i) There is the authority of the Word of God.
 - (1) Are you under it?
 - ii) There is the authority of the Lordship of Christ.
 - (1) Have you submitted to it?
 - iii) There is the authority of the direction of the Holy Spirit.
 - (1) Do you know it?
 - iv) There is to be authority in the home.
 - v) There is authority in the church.
 - vi) There is authority in the government.
 - vii) When we go to a restaurant, there is authority in that restaurant.
 - g) The Lord Jesus Christ was under authority.
 - i) Luke 7:8
 - ii) The Lord Jesus showed us not what God was to be like on Earth but what man was to be like on Earth.
 - (1) He was God, but He lived a life on this Earth as man.
 - iii) The Lord Jesus was subject to His Father.
 - (1) John 17:4
 - iv) The Lord Jesus was in subjection to the Holy Spirit.
 - (1) Luke 4:1
 - v) He was subject to the Word of God.
 - (1) John 10:35
 - (a) He said that the Scriptures cannot be broken.
 - vi) He was subject to His earthly parents.
 - (1) Luke 2:51
 - vii) The Lord Jesus was subject to earthly government.
 - (1) Matthew 17:27
 - (a) Jesus, the King of Glory, paid His taxes.
 - h) If the Lord Jesus was subject to authority, then who are we to say that no one will tell us what to do?
 - i) Because authority flows from above, we must get under that authority that is over us so we can be over those things that that authority has set over us.
- 4) THE SCOPE OF KINGDOM AUTHORITY (LUKE 10:18-19)
- a) Luke 10:18-19
 - i) In the King James translation, the word "power" is used twice in this passage.
 - (1) But these are two different words and may be translated as, "Behold, I give you authority over all the power of the enemy."
 - b) The scope of our authority is over all the power of the enemy.

- c) Kingdom authority does not need to be refused, it does not need to be confused, and it does not need to be abused.
 - i) God gave Adam authority over the beasts of the field, the fowls of the air and the fish of the sea, but that authority has not yet been given to us.
 - (1) We do not live in the Garden of Eden.
 - ii) Potentially, we gain more in Christ than we ever lost in Adam.
 - (1) But our full inheritance is waiting until Jesus Christ comes again.
 - iii) Adam was given authority over the forces of nature; we are given authority over the power of the enemy.
 - iv) The dominion over the forces of nature will come in the millennium.
 - (1) Hebrews 2:8
 - (a) There is potentiality that is yet to be fulfilled.
 - (b) There is a “not yet.”
 - (2) Romans 8:22
 - (a) We are not living in the Garden of Eden.
 - (b) There is disease, destruction and depravity all over the globe.
 - (i) Children of God are not isolated nor insulated from these.
 - (3) Romans 8:23
 - (a) The restoration of nature and the redemption of the body are yet to come.
 - d) When our Lord says that He gives us authority, He is referring to spiritual authority.
 - i) If the devil cannot keep us from learning this truth, he will try to corrupt it and pervert it so that we will have the idea that we can make it rain or influence nature or empty hospital rooms if we have spiritual authority.
 - e) 2 Peter 1:3
 - i) This is where our authority is.
 - f) One day, the lion and the lamb will lie down together, but not yet.
 - i) Hebrews 2:8
 - g) Meanwhile, we are not slaves of sin.
 - i) Satan has no authority, sin has no allurements, and temptation has no power that the child of God cannot overcome with kingdom authority.
- 5) THE STRENGTH OF KINGDOM AUTHORITY (LUKE 7:7-8)
- a) Luke 7:7-8
 - i) This centurion was a man of strength.
 - ii) If we need spiritual soldiers, spiritual servants and this strength, then we will have to surrender.
 - (1) Strength, in the Christian life, comes from surrender.
 - b) If we are going to understand this tremendous strength, then we must surrender to the Lord Jesus Christ.
 - i) We must be His to command.
 - c) There is a difference between authority and power.
 - i) Authority comes from the office.

- ii) Power is residual in the person.
 - (1) On the football field, there are large, strong men dressed in armor; and there are much smaller men with nothing but a whistle.
 - (a) The smaller men with the whistles can send the strong men off the field.
 - (b) The man in the striped shirt with the whistle has the authority.
- d) Just knowing the strength of spiritual authority is not enough.
 - i) We need to learn how to pray with authority.

6) CONCLUSION

- a) Have you given your heart to the Lord Jesus Christ?
 - i) Are you saved?
- b) Do you know Jesus personally? If not, you can pray to Him today by asking Him to come into your life.
- c) Call upon Jesus today. Repent (turn) from your sins, and turn to Jesus. Ask Him to forgive you of your sins, and acknowledge Him as Lord of your life.
 - i) Romans 3:23
 - ii) Romans 10:9-10
 - iii) Romans 10:13
 - iv) Acts 16:31
 - v) John 3:16