

PRESENT TRUTH

A Teaching Letter of Lifestream Teaching Ministries

For this reason I will not be negligent to remind you always of these things, though you know and are established in the present truth. (2 Peter 1:12 NKJV)

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Nothing Will Hurt You

Introduction

When we are born again we enter into a spiritual reality that we are not prepared for and of which we have little understanding. This is particularly true of the Western Church where spiritual things have been side-lined and self-help and success have been promoted. However, whether we are prepared or not we must learn to walk in the Spirit which means that we learn to interact with spiritual reality. This requires that we learn the rules and protocols of the Kingdom of God. This is part of our maturing process.

In his prayer for the Ephesians Paul said in Ephesians 1:18-19 that he wanted them to know three things: 1) what is the hope of His calling; 2) what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints; and 3) what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us. We need to know these same three things if we are to function in the spiritual realm. We must know our calling or purpose, our identity in Him, and the power and authority that He has given to us. As we mature we grow in understanding in these areas.

Our understanding is progressive. Until we know our calling and identity we can't fully utilize the power and authority of the Lord in a proper manner, fully aligned with His will.

Authority and Power

In Luke chapter ten we find the account of Jesus sending out the 70 appointed disciples and of their return. Many of us are being sent out in a similar manner today. I believe that this is part of the ongoing pattern of His sending forth workers in the harvest.

Now after this the Lord appointed seventy others, and sent them in pairs ahead of Him to every city and place where He Himself was going to come. [\(Luke 10:1 NASB\)](#)

First, we should notice that the 70 didn't decide where they were going to go themselves but they were sent to every city and place where Jesus was going to go. In many ways their ministry was similar in purpose to that of John the Baptist. They went to prepare the cities for the Lord to come to them by announcing the nearness of the Kingdom of God.

The Lord gave them instructions on how they were to conduct themselves and they did as directed. When they returned they were quite happy with the results.

The seventy returned with joy, saying, "Lord, even the demons are subject to us in Your name." (Luke 10:17 NASB)

The power and authority of the Lord had been with them. The Kingdom of God had come into direct conflict with the kingdom of this world resulting in the revelation that even the demons were subject to the King and His representatives.

He said to them, "I saw Satan having fallen like lightning from heaven. Behold, I give you authority to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy. Nothing will in any way hurt you. Nevertheless, don't rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven." (Luke 10:18-20 WEB)

Jesus gave them an explanation, a warning, and an iron clad promise. It is important that we understand what Jesus said to them because it has direct application to us, especially if we are being sent out as the Seventy were.

The Explanation

Jesus said that He had given them (and us) authority over three things: 1) serpents; 2) scorpions; and 3) all power of the enemy. I believe that the first two listed are types of fallen spiritual beings and the third is all of the other power that the enemy holds.

Serpents, I believe, are symbols of the principalities and powers that are in the heavenly places [*Ephesians 6:12*] and are exemplified by the serpent in the Garden of Eden. This type attacks the imaginations and reasonings of our minds, our thinking processes. The scorpions are the tormenting spirits that attack our body, our circumstances, and our well-being and are exemplified by the horde of spiritual creatures released from the Abyss [*Revelation 9:10*]. We have the authority of our King and His Kingdom to not only deal with these but also all other power that the enemy can wield.

The Warning

Jesus told them not to rejoice in this. Why? I think it is because He could detect a little bit of "brag" in their statement. Jesus knows that "brag" leads to pride which God resists. Pride is the sin of our enemy. It has no place in us. Pride is the enemy of the Kingdom of God and will prevent us from walking in His power and authority.

The Promise

Jesus said, "Nothing will in any way hurt you." We absolutely need this assurance. We tend to naively stumble around in the spiritual realm with little understanding of what we are doing. It is easy as we deal with the enemy to allow a little fear to enter us especially when the enemy fights back. We can become concerned about ourselves, our families, or others that we love. We can even fall into legalistic activity as Job did when he offered sacrifice for his children "just in case" [*Job 1:5*].

Fear and faith cannot co-exist. You cannot walk in faith if you are living in fear. Even if the fear is kept pushed down deep in your heart.

When the Children of Israel entered the Promised Land, God told them they were to destroy the

seven nations that lived there. There was to be no compromise with them; no intermingling. Had they fully obeyed the Lord it would have saved them much trouble later on.

As we enter the Kingdom of God we do it through much tribulation [*Acts 14:22*]. I believe that this is because we, too, face a seven nation scenario as we seek to enter into the Kingdom or as I prefer to call it “7 giants”. One of the 7 nations that the Israelites were to destroy were the Hittites. Their name means “sons of terror”. One of the 7 giants in us that correspond to the Hittites is “fear”. It will prevent us from walking in the fullness of the Kingdom (our Land of Promises) if it is not fully destroyed.

As was said earlier, Jesus said, “Nothing will in any way hurt you.” Nothing means NOTHING! No serpent, scorpion, or any other power of the enemy can touch us if we stand in faith in the power and authority of the Name of Jesus.

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