

The Authority of the Believer by Pastor Jarrod Davidoff - May 19, 2019

I would like for us to do a study of the believer's spiritual authority.

This encompasses what our rights are as His children and believers in Jesus.

In order to achieve this, we must learn about what authority is, how great our God is, and who we are in Christ.

First things first, let's look at the meaning of authority.

Merriam-Webster Dictionary Definition of *authority*

1a: power to influence or command thought, opinion, or behavior –the president's *authority*

b: freedom granted by one in authority : right—Who gave you the *authority* to do as you wish?

2a: persons in command *specifically* : government – the local *authorities* of each state

3b: convincing force lent *authority* to the performance

Cambridge Dictionary Definition of authority

An authority is someone with official responsibility for a particular area of activity:

Another definition

the power or right to give orders, make decisions, and enforce obedience.

I am also looking at what a believer is, so let's look at what it means to believe.

Merriam Webster Dictionary Definition of *believe*

1a: to consider to be true or honest – *believe* the reports you wouldn't *believe* how long it took

b: to accept the word or evidence of

2: to hold as an opinion

1a: to accept something as true, genuine, or real

b: to have a firm or wholehearted religious conviction or persuasion; to regard the existence of God as a fact Do you *believe*? —usually used with *in believe* in the Scriptures

2: to have a firm conviction as to the goodness, efficacy, or ability of something *believe* in exercise

3: to hold an opinion

1. How Great is God

I want us to spend some time considering and meditating on how great God is.

Do you ever just sit and contemplate the greatness of God?

Genesis 1:1 In the beginning God created

How powerful is God? I mean, ask yourself. When was the last time you created a planet? How did that go?

Job 38:1-41

[1] Then the Lord answered Job out of the whirlwind, and said:

[2] “Who *is* this who darkens counsel

By words without knowledge?

[3] Now prepare yourself like a man;

I will question you, and you shall answer Me.

[4] “Where were you when I laid the foundations of the earth?

Tell *Me*, if you have understanding.

[5] Who determined its measurements?

Surely you know!

Or who stretched the line upon it?

[6] To what were its foundations fastened?

Or who laid its cornerstone,

[7] When the morning stars sang together,

And all the sons of God shouted for joy?

[8] “Or *who* shut in the sea with doors,

When it burst forth *and* issued from the womb;

[9] When I made the clouds its garment,

And thick darkness its swaddling band;

[10] When I fixed My limit for it,

And set bars and doors;

[11] When I said,

‘This far you may come, but no farther,

And here your proud waves must stop!’

[12] “Have you commanded the morning since your days *began*,

And caused the dawn to know its place,

[13] That it might take hold of the ends of the earth,

And the wicked be shaken out of it?

[14] It takes on form like clay *under* a seal,

And stands out like a garment.

[15] From the wicked their light is withheld,

And the upraised arm is broken.

[16] “Have you entered the springs of the sea?

Or have you walked in search of the depths?

[17] Have the gates of death been revealed to you?

Or have you seen the doors of the shadow of death?

[18] Have you comprehended the breadth of the earth?

Tell *Me*, if you know all this.

[19] “Where *is* the way *to* the dwelling of light?

And darkness, where *is* its place,

[20] That you may take it to its territory,

That you may know the paths *to* its home?

[21] Do you know *it*, because you were born then,
Or *because* the number of your days *is* great?

[22] “Have you entered the treasury of snow,
Or have you seen the treasury of hail,

[23] Which I have reserved for the time of trouble,
For the day of battle and war?

[24] By what way is light diffused,
Or the east wind scattered over the earth?

[25] “Who has divided a channel for the overflowing *water*,
Or a path for the thunderbolt,

[26] To cause it to rain on a land *where there is* no one,
A wilderness in which *there is* no man;

[27] To satisfy the desolate waste,
And cause to spring forth the growth of tender grass?

[28] Has the rain a father?
Or who has begotten the drops of dew?

[29] From whose womb comes the ice?
And the frost of heaven, who gives it birth?

[30] The waters harden like stone,
And the surface of the deep is frozen.

[31] “Can you bind the cluster of the Pleiades,

Or loose the belt of Orion?

[32] Can you bring out Mazzaroth in its season?

Or can you guide the Great Bear with its cubs?

[33] Do you know the ordinances of the heavens?

Can you set their dominion over the earth?

[34] “Can you lift up your voice to the clouds,

That an abundance of water may cover you?

[35] Can you send out lightnings, that they may go,

And say to you, ‘Here we *are!*’?

[36] Who has put wisdom in the mind?

Or who has given understanding to the heart?

[37] Who can number the clouds by wisdom?

Or who can pour out the bottles of heaven,

[38] When the dust hardens in clumps,

And the clods cling together?

[39] “Can you hunt the prey for the lion,

Or satisfy the appetite of the young lions,

[40] When they crouch in *their* dens,

Or lurk in their lairs to lie in wait?

[41] Who provides food for the raven,

When its young ones cry to God,

And wander about for lack of food?

JOB 39:1-30

[1] “Do you know the time when the wild mountain goats bear young?

Or can you mark when the deer gives birth?

[2] Can you number the months *that* they fulfill?

Or do you know the time when they bear young?

[3] They bow down,

They bring forth their young,

They deliver their offspring.

[4] Their young ones are healthy,

They grow strong with grain;

They depart and do not return to them.

[5] “Who set the wild donkey free?

Who loosed the bonds of the onager,

[6] Whose home I have made the wilderness,

And the barren land his dwelling?

[7] He scorns the tumult of the city;

He does not heed the shouts of the driver.

[8] The range of the mountains *is* his pasture,

And he searches after every green thing.

[9] “Will the wild ox be willing to serve you?

Will he bed by your manger?

[10] Can you bind the wild ox in the furrow with ropes?

Or will he plow the valleys behind you?

[11] Will you trust him because his strength *is* great?

Or will you leave your labor to him?

[12] Will you trust him to bring home your grain,

And gather it to your threshing floor?

[13] “The wings of the ostrich wave proudly,

But are her wings and pinions *like the* kindly stork’s?

[14] For she leaves her eggs on the ground,

And warms them in the dust;

[15] She forgets that a foot may crush them,

Or that a wild beast may break them.

[16] She treats her young harshly, as though *they were* not hers;

Her labor is in vain, without concern,

[17] Because God deprived her of wisdom,

And did not endow her with understanding.

[18] When she lifts herself on high,

She scorns the horse and its rider.

[19] “Have you given the horse strength?

Have you clothed his neck with thunder?

[20] Can you frighten him like a locust?

His majestic snorting strikes terror.

[21] He paws in the valley, and rejoices in *his* strength;

He gallops into the clash of arms.

[22] He mocks at fear, and is not frightened;

Nor does he turn back from the sword.

[23] The quiver rattles against him,

The glittering spear and javelin.

[24] He devours the distance with fierceness and rage;

Nor does he come to a halt because the trumpet *has* sounded.

[25] At *the blast of* the trumpet he says, 'Aha!'

He smells the battle from afar,

The thunder of captains and shouting.

[26] "Does the hawk fly by your wisdom,

And spread its wings toward the south?

[27] Does the eagle mount up at your command,

And make its nest on high?

[28] On the rock it dwells and resides,

On the crag of the rock and the stronghold.

[29] From there it spies out the prey;

Its eyes observe from afar.

[30] Its young ones suck up blood;

And where the slain *are*, there it *is*.”

JOB 40:1-2

[1] Moreover the Lord answered Job, and said:

[2] “Shall the one who contends with the Almighty correct *Him*?

He who rebukes God, let him answer it.”

WHY IS IT SO IMPORTANT FOR US TO KNOW ABOUT HOW GREAT GOD IS?

In order to have confidence in someone, you need to know their abilities and capabilities.

When you start a new business, and you build a team, and especially when you pay your staff, their abilities must be tried and tested.

When you build a sports team, the various players must be tried and tested.

WELL WITH YOUR LIFE, IT'S EASY TO COME TO GOD BECAUSE HE HAS BEEN TRIED AND TESTED, AND THE RESULTS ARE IN.

HE IS

LOVING, KIND, PATIENT, AND GENTLE

ALL POWERFUL YET MERCIFUL

MARVELOUS AND INDESCRIBABLY AWESOME

FAITHFUL AND TRUSTWORTHY

LOVE AND FULFILLMENT

HELPFUL AND WISE

MASTERFUL AND BRILLIANT

CREATIVELY MATCHLESS

THE ULTIMATE PROVIDER -spirit, soul and body

GOOD AND EXCEPTIONAL

Ephesians 1:15-23

[15] Therefore I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints, **[16]** do not cease to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers: **[17]** that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him, **[18]** the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, **[19]** and what *is* the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power **[20]** which He worked in Christ (JESUS) when He raised Him from the dead and seated *Him* at His right hand in the heavenly *places*, **[21]** far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come. **[22]** And He put all *things* under His feet, and gave Him *to be* head over all *things* to the church, **[23]** which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.

2. Who we are in Christ

So once we have the revelation of how great God is and that He is the source, then it's easy for us to have the revelation of who we are IN CHRIST.

Ephesians 1:15-22

[15] Therefore I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints, [16] do not cease to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers: [17] that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him (THE GREAT GOD WE HAVE BEEN LEARNING ABOUT), [18] the eyes of your understanding (SPIRITUAL EYES), being enlightened (COME TO THE REALIZATION OF); that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints (YOU HAVE A SPIRITUAL INHERITANCE – JESUS DIES, YOU INHERITED), [19] and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe (IF YOU DON'T BELIEVE, YOU WON'T HAVE POWER DIRECTED TO YOU. Faith comes by hearing), according to the working of His mighty power [20] which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, [21] far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come. [22] And He put all *things* under His feet and gave Him *to be* head over all *things* to the church, [23] which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.

Ephesians 2:6 and raised *us* up together, and made *us* sit together in the heavenly *places* in Christ Jesus

Luke 10:18-19

[18] And He said to them, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. [19] Behold, I give you the authority to trample on serpents and scorpions,

and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt
you