

Understanding Your Authority, Defeating Your Enemy

I went to church for years and never heard about the devil. It's not fun talking about Satan, and I don't ever want to put too much focus on him. But the truth is, we do have an enemy. First Peter 5:8b (AMPC) says, "That enemy of yours, the devil, roams around like a lion roaring [in fierce hunger], seeking someone to seize upon and devour."

If we're going to defeat our enemy, it's essential that we believe in the power and authority we have in Christ. That's the only way we can have the great life God wants us to have.

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There are so many Christians who seem to be going through their daily life by hoping they can make it through the day. They go from one issue or crisis to the next, and they lack the confident, bold faith in God that can keep them stable and full of His peace and joy amid the difficult circumstances of life.

The good news is, God doesn't want us to live in the emergency room of life forever. Instead, He wants us to get to the point where we know what to do to have a great life and take responsibility for ourselves, trusting we can do whatever we need through the strength we have in Christ (Phil. 4:13). This means we know who we are in Christ (who He says we are in His Word) and how to walk in the authority we have as believers in Jesus.



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John 10:10b (AMP) tells us Jesus gave His life that we may “have *and* enjoy life, and have it in abundance (to the full, till it overflows).” When we accept Christ as our Savior and place our faith in Him, we receive the assurance of eternal life, but we also become “joint heirs” with Christ (Rom. 8:17 NKJV) and are entitled to have everything He is and everything He has: grace, peace, righteousness, joy, and power and authority over the enemy.

Matthew 10:1 (AMPC) says, “Jesus summoned to Him His twelve disciples and gave them power *and* authority over unclean spirits, to drive them out, and to cure all kinds of disease and all kinds of weakness *and* infirmity.” God has given this authority to every believer. It’s important to understand that Satan has power, but we have power *and* authority in Christ.

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