

MINISTERING HEALING

Transcribed from a tape entitled:

AUTHORITY TO PRAY

Tape #167-A

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Well, God bless you this morning. The reason we are here is specifically to learn more about and to begin to have greater results in laying on of hands for healing. We are here not just to learn, but to do. We are here to learn so that we can do. But we don't want to just learn for the sake of learning, okay? We don't want a form of godliness but not have the power that comes with true godliness. So today what we want to do is get into the Word of God, have the Spirit here with us, learn of the Lord and then see that power manifested as we walk with Him because it's here for us to use. Jesus said it's better that I go and that you receive the Holy Spirit, so I'd like to see the results of what He said. Because there's some days I wish He was here. But that's because we're not walking with the power of the Holy Spirit. But today we can see how the power of God and we'll see it through the Word of God, is that we have authority in Christ through that Holy Spirit, and therefore now the power that Christ had on earth is manifested through all of us and should be manifested through the whole body of Christ.

And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues; they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover (Mark 16:17-18). Now we're going to talk about most every thing in that verse today. I don't have time to go through everything. Some of the things in that verse aren't what you think they are. We'll show you that. Because this first session here what I want to talk about is that part of the reason we have not walked in the authority that Christ has delegated to us or is willing to delegate to us is because we have not really clearly seen what this Bible says. We've read verses. We've been taught verses. And we have missed what it is really saying in some respects. Okay? Right here in this verse you're going to see some things that are interesting as we continue on here.

You know I was at a pastor's meeting here a week or so ago and there were a couple of guys there talking about apostles and they said, "Well, you know apostles...." It was kind of a negative conversation. They said, "Well, you know apostles are supposed to have signs. The

signs of an apostles are signs and wonders." I spoke up and I said, "Well, I don't know. Second Corinthians 12:12 says that signs of an apostle will wrought among you with all patience, signs, wonders and mighty deeds. I think that what Paul said is what the signs of an apostle are: signs, wonders and mighty deeds starting with patience. But Mark 16:17,18 says that these signs follow those that believe..." We just read what those signs are. Those are just signs of believers. "So the only big difference I see in the sign of a believer and the sign of an apostle is that an apostle has to have patience."

I like to throw those things out just to get people looking funny. Well anyway. That's not really the only difference, but... But we do have to read what's written. If we will start there at least then what we have will come from God, right?

As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God (1 Peter 4:10). See we want to talk about the gifts of healing, but we want to talk about the grace because nothing from God works without grace. As we've spoken here before, so many of these things that we want to receive from God and we may pray for them and we seek after them, but we have not understood that everything comes by grace. It's not of works, but we may work to put ourselves in a position to receive grace.

Confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God hath raised Him from the dead and thou shalt be saved (Romans 10:9). For with the mouth confession is made unto salvation, with the heart man believes unto righteousness (v.10). We confess with our mouth, that's a work, it's not a hard work, but it is hard enough that a lot of people never get around to it, but if you don't confess Jesus as Lord, you don't get saved. But does that work save you? No. It's grace that saves you. It's grace by faith. You used your faith, you confessed, you believed, that put you in a position that God gave you the grace of eternal life.

What we want to talk about today is the same process, but for healing. We want to show you some things that can happen, that can be done in your life, so that you are in a position to receive grace in terms of healing that you can minister to someone like we read there in 1 Peter. We receive the gift and then we minister. See when it talks about in 1 Corinthians 12 and it says there is tongues, interpretations of tongues...but when it gets to healing it says, gifts of healings, healings plural. Why is that? Because the gift is not that, "I have the gift of healing and then you can get it from me." No. No. The gift of healing is when I pray for you and you get healed. You received the gift. That's why it is plural. Because then you can get healed of something else tomorrow. It's not like you have the gift of healing and now you have it. No. You need to be healed for something that you have. I need to be healed for something I have. If I can impart that to you, I just gave you the gift of healing. You got healed. That's why it is plural. We sometimes think so much about, it's something I've got. No. We understand some people walk in a grace that they impart to other people, but the gifts come to you when you need them.

And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all kinds of sickness (See He preached. He taught and He healed. Those are three different things that He did.) and all kinds of disease among the people. Then

His fame went throughout all Syria; and they brought to Him all sick people who were afflicted with various diseases and torments, and those who were demon-possessed, epileptics, and paralytics; and He healed them. Great multitudes followed Him; from Galilee, and from Decapolis, Jerusalem, Judea, and beyond the Jordan (Matthew 4:23-25).

Now everybody in Israel didn't get healed, but it says that those that came to Him got healed. That's a key. Jesus never let anybody go away without being healed, but the people that didn't come to him, didn't always get healed. We find also that as we personally come close to the Lord Jesus, we receive things that we've been praying about, but we've never gotten close enough to receive them. We need to go after Him. We need to go where He is and we'll receive the same results these people received.

When you have healing in your ministry, you're going to have people. They're going to come because people all have needs. Most everybody in here has some sort of physical thing. Now we're all pretty healthy. We all walked in here, but we live in these bodies made out of clay and they are, I guess you could say, falling apart almost from the time we are born. If something doesn't get put into them and if there's not work being done within them and on them daily, they are going down. We can all use prayer for healing, but there are other people that really need it and it would draw them to Christ. It actually is probably the greatest evangelistic tool there is, is laying on of hands for healing. Quick results. Because like Paul said, he didn't come just with words, enticing words of man's wisdom, but came in the power of the Holy Spirit. The same Holy Spirit that was with Paul is the same Holy Spirit that is with us. We just need to walk in the grace, that same grace that he walked in.

Remember when Paul had his problem and he went to the Lord three times, and the Lord said, "My grace is sufficient for you." Paul understood how to walk in grace. He said, "Great. I'm going to walk in that grace." And he did. We need to do the same thing, but we have not been taught and that's what we're going to learn some today, is to get into that grace and then impart it to others. We will reach people. We will reach Christians that have turned away from the Lord because they've heard about it but they haven't seen it and we'll reach people that have never been reached for the Lord Jesus because they will be touched in a place that they need to be touched. The Lord wants to touch people. He wants to heal people.

Let's go back to the same chapter and start with verse one. I'm going to read you this. This doesn't directly have anything to do with healing, but it comes before what we just read there, where He went out and preached and taught and had the healings. This is something I want to go through. It's the temptations of Jesus. It will be more apparent as we read this.

Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. And when He had fasted forty days and forty nights, afterward He was hungry (Matthew 4:1-2). Now there is a reason. The Bible is an Eastern book. When I hear people talk about, "Well you know that person is into an Eastern religion." I say, "Well, so am I. It's called Christianity." Most all religions came out of the East. The Bible is an Eastern book. So is the god of Davida. So just because it came from the East doesn't mean it's right, but we forget that this was not written in King James English or in niv English or whatever. The point is this is an Eastern

book that was originally written in Aramaic and Greek. It was written to those people and their culture with their understanding and the significant things in the Bible are written to them and things that were understood. Forty days is...the number forty biblically is a very significant number. It stands for a time of probation, trial, or maybe chastisement. You can think of times when it rained, like on Noah for forty day and forty nights. You can think of the Children of Israel forty years in the wilderness. Moses upon Mount Sinai for forty days and forty nights. Elijah up on Mount Sinai for forty days and forty nights. So you have this forty and it's for a reason. It's not just like they liked fasting for forty days, it just wasn't a good round number. It represents something. Jesus was sent out to the wilderness for forty days and forty nights.

But then we come to these, what we've been taught, the three temptations. I want to look at these because these are significant. But even more significant for our purposes here is not so much as "the" temptations, but what does the Bible have to say that's not quite so apparent to what we've been taught and what we've seen?

I like to tell the story about one day when we were joking amongst the pastors at our meetings and somebody said something about everything in this Bible that's in black, God said. Somebody said, yeah and everything in red, Jesus said. And I said, yeah and everything in white, the Holy Spirit said. The reason we can't understand the black and the red so much is because we've left out the white. Jesus said, "I'm giving you My Spirit to bring all things to your remembrance whatsoever things I've said. I'm giving you the Holy Spirit to guide you, to lead you into all truth." Sometimes this Word of God has not been truth to us because we've not understood it, because we've left the Teacher, the Holy Spirit out.

Temptation #1, Now (This first word in each of these temptations you are going to see if very important.) Now when the tempter came to Him, he said, "If You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread." But He answered and said, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God'" (Matthew 4:3-4). The written word and the spoken word that the Lord speaks to us. The logos is the word translated "word" in the Bible many times. Logos, the message. But then there is another word Rama which is also translated as "word." We have to have both. We have to have every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God. We have to have what does He say here that He has written? And we need specific word that is the Holy Spirit. We need to have the words from the Holy Spirit in our lives in order to have authority over the enemy. Jesus said to him it is written...that's how He defeated the devil. He said to him, it is written...and then He gave an accurate quotation from the Bible that applied to that situation.

Temptation #2, Then the devil took Him up into the holy city, set Him on the pinnacle of the temple, and said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down. (See he questions who He was. Well He was the Son of God. The devil knew it.) For it is written: (What is the devil coming back to him with? It is written. He's quoting Scripture. The devil knows it better than you do. Because he's been looking for loop holes for six thousand years. No loop holes for him, sorry.) For it is written: 'He shall give His angels charge over you,' and, 'In their

hands they shall bear you up, Lest you dash your foot against a stone." (See the devil quoted a Scriptures right to Jesus and he quoted a good Scriptures for the situation. He quoted right out of Psalms and he quoted it correctly. What was incorrect was the application and Jesus caught that and He said, "It is written again, you shall not tempt the Lord your God." So when somebody comes to you with a quotation from the Bible, you have to go by your spirit sometimes. What's going on. That sounds right but it just doesn't seem right and then let the Spirit give you the answer. That's what Jesus did and then He came back with the Word of God again.) Jesus said to him, "It is written again, 'You shall not tempt the LORD your God'" (vv.5-7).

Temptation #3, Again, the devil took Him up on an exceedingly high mountain, and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. And he said to Him, "All these things I will give You if You will fall down and worship me." Then Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! For it is written, 'You shall worship the LORD your God, and Him only you shall serve.'" Then the devil left Him, and behold, angels came and ministered to Him (vv. 8-11).

Now I want you to keep your finger there but I want you to go to Luke 4 and I want to read the record of the temptations as it is recorded in Luke. Now you know there are four gospels and as I was growing up I was taught there were four and each one of those men wrote down the things as they could remember them and there are some discrepancies between them, but that's because they each wrote down the things they could remember. Hey, some of these guys, I mean Luke wasn't there. Matthew wasn't in the wilderness with Jesus. John was one of the apostles but he wrote that when he was almost a hundred years old. Maybe he would have forgotten something by then. We forget that the Bible says that the Scriptures were written as holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit was there. The Holy Spirit did remember everything that happened and did get those guys to write it down the way He wanted it written down. Certainly it came through their language and through their understanding, but nothing that was written by Matthew could contradict what was written by John or by Mark or by Luke. So when we find something that appears to be a discrepancy, it has to be in our understanding or it has to be in translation. Generally it is that we don't understand. Or in the case I'm going to show you here, we haven't looked close enough to what's right there. Okay.

Then Jesus, being filled with the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness, being tempted for forty days by the devil. And in those days He ate nothing, and afterward, when they had ended, He was hungry. And the devil said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread." But Jesus answered him, saying, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God'" (Luke 4:1-4). Now that is the same as what we read in Matthew, right? The first temptation was this one about the bread.

Then the devil, taking Him up on a high mountain, showed Him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time. And the devil said to Him, "All this authority I will give You, and their glory; for this has been delivered to me, and I give it to whomever I wish. Therefore, if

You will worship before me, all will be Yours." And Jesus answered and said to him, "Get behind Me, Satan! For it is written, 'You shall worship the LORD your God, and Him only you shall serve'" (Luke 4:5-8). Now that's similar to what we read over here in verse 8 of Matthew. But it's not exactly the same, is it? Because over here in Matthew the devil said, all these things I'll give you... over here it says ...all this authority I will give you. Things and authority are not the same thing. Authority will get you things sometimes, but the things are not the authority. They may represent it, but... Another thing that you'd notice, even if you just read these two together, it's pretty obvious they are not in the same order. Because over here in Matthew you had the temptation for the bread and then you had the one where he took Him up to the pinnacle of the temple and told Him to jump off. And then he took and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world. Now over here we have the thing with the bread and then we have the devil taking Him up to a high mountain and saying all this authority I'll give you and then he takes Him to the pinnacle of the temple. So they are switched. So if you just believe these guys wrote what they thought they remembered no big deal to you. But I don't believe that. I believe everything in the Bible is there for a reason and the order in which it is there and sometimes it is harder for us to understand it because it was not written in English. It was written in Aramaic or Greek depending upon what you are reading. Well anyway we'll keep reading here.

Then he brought Him to Jerusalem, set Him on the pinnacle of the temple, and said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down from here. For it is written: 'He shall give His angels charge over you, To keep you,' and, 'In their hands they shall bear you up, Lest you dash your foot against a stone.'" And Jesus answered and said to him, "It has been said, 'You shall not tempt the Lord your God.'" Now when the devil had ended every temptation, he departed from Him until an opportune time. Then Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit to Galilee, and news of Him went out through all the surrounding region (Luke 4:9-14). We know why it went out because we read here in Matthew what happened after He came out. After He went up there and got tempted, learned how to use the Holy Spirit. Remember He got baptized, the Spirit came down upon Him like a dove, and the very next thing He got driven up into the wilderness. I mean, Jesus knew He didn't have a lot of time on earth, you'd figure He'd want to get right to preaching. He spent the first forty days with no body around. What was He doing learning how to use the Holy Spirit that the Lord had just given Him. Jesus didn't do a single miracle, not a single person got healed, before the Holy Spirit came upon Him. It's the same with us. Without the Holy Spirit we don't have the power. Jesus was the Christ. Christ just means "Messiah" it literally means the Anointed One. But the Holy Spirit was the anointing that made Him the Anointed One. We have that Spirit of Christ which He poured out on the day of Pentecost in its fullness.

Now back to these temptations. In verse 3 we saw, and the devil said to him. In verse 5 we saw, then the devil took him. In verse 9 it says, then he brought him to Jerusalem. Back here in Matthew it started off with verse 3, now when the tempter came to him. Verse 5, then the devil took him. But here's something different in verse 8, it says, again the devil took him to an exceeding high mountain. What does again mean? It means this has been done before. It

means this has happened before. In the context does it mean, and again He got tempted? Or does it mean again he took Him to that mountain?

Well, when you put these two gospels together and you harmonize them together, it is very clear it is talking about again he took Him up on the mountain. Now we walked about the number forty and the significance of the forty and what it means as far as you know as chastisement or trial or testing. But forty is made up of, there are different ways you could come up with definitions for that, but it is made up of four and ten multiplied. Biblically speaking, ten is the number for ordinal perfection. The four is the number for the world, for creation, for the elements. Like for instance there are four seasons. There are four elements, air, earth, fire and water. There are four directions of the earth. It signifies something. It is not necessarily bad, but it's not necessarily good. It's the earth. What was the devil tempting Him with? He was tempting Him with things that he has on the earth which he says were delivered to him, right? Well three is the number for divine perfection. Now the devil tries to imitate that too and you could see in a sense why if you had three temptations, but it wouldn't make sense that three biblically speaking would be divine perfection. But you could see four, because it's talking about the earth and the things of the earth and things that God had created originally and the devil was now using. So if you'll take this and look at this in order, I'll give them to you in order.

If you'll go back here in Matthew 4:1 and just write a one next to that verse three. Then next to verse five write a three. Next to eight write a four. Then in Luke 4:3 put a one next to that verse three. Then next to verse five put a two. Then next to verse nine put a number three. Then I'm just going to show them to you in order.

The first temptation is recorded in both gospels. Starting in verse three of chapter four of Luke and chapter four of Matthew. Temptation number two is listed in Luke chapter five. So first he starts with tempting Him to change the bread from the rock, from the stones. Then number two he took Him to a high mountain and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time. Now here's something that not's clear to us in English that is very clear if you read this in the original. That word "world" is the word oikoumene. It is specifically talking about the globe and regions of the globe. Like we would look at a geography map that was going to show the countries of the world with a different color for Russia than there is for China and a different color for the USA than there is for Mexico or for Canada. That would be the oikoumene the earth itself and its divisions of the earth.

He says I will give you all this authority because when you're looking at that kind of a map, what does it represent? The United States has authority over this region of the earth. The Italian nation has authority over this section. The Russian has authority over this section of the globe. That oikoumene. That's why he tempted Him with the authority of the world of that break down of the world.

Then we go to number three in verse nine. And the devil took Him to Jerusalem and put Him on the pinnacle of the temple and then tempted Him and said, "Hey, jump off." Well, that's the same temptation you see in verse five of Matthew. Took Him to the temple, etc. But then we

get to verse eight in Matthew four and it says again the devil took Him to a high mountain. This is the second trip up to the mountain. Again he took Him to the high mountain and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. Now that looks similar, doesn't it? But in the Greek it is not similar at all, because that's the word cosmos. Kingdoms of the world there is not oikoumene, it is cosmos. It doesn't even look similar, but translating that into English, you can understand why they would get that because that's another way of looking at the world, but it's a whole different map. The cosmos is talking about the orderly arrangement in the world. It includes the people of the world. It can include the natural order of things. It can include what we would call the animal kingdom. The cosmos. And then he said all these things I will give to you. That is different than authority. So then we can see in a very, there is more that I could go into to show you details here, but I wanted to show you that for a reason.

There is actually more than one reason. I want to show you that sometimes things that we think we know are very clearly we didn't see it as clear as we could have. I'm not asking you to go out and teach this to everybody or anybody, what I want you to see is that the Word of God is maybe bigger than you thought it was. Some of the things that you've read time after time after time you thought you knew it and you didn't. You see? And also the magnificence of the Word of God is so much higher than we thought it was. Also, we have fallen short of what's available to us because many times we have read over things. When it comes to praying for the sick. That's exactly what we've done. We have not understood how to pray because we haven't looked at the word to see how they pray. How did Jesus pray? How did Paul pray? How did Peter pray? How did the people that had success pray to have that success? Part of our answer of having authority over sicknesses is to just pray correctly. The way we have been taught to pray is good, but it's not the only way. What we call prayer, many times, is so limited.

As a matter of fact one time talking about our group where we meet here and we pray. But we have prophecy, etc. within our prayers. Somebody said to me one time, "Well, you're not just praying down there." I said, "What do you mean?" "Well, you're prophesying, too." I said, "Well, I don't see a difference." They said, "What do you mean?" I said, "Well, the first verse in the Bible that has the word pray in it also happens to be the first verse in the Bible that has the word prophet in it. So it seems to me that they are tied together throughout the Bible. I don't think we can have one, if we are, it doesn't mean that we will always have one if we have the other, but if we close the door to one, we will never have the other." Because the law of first mention in the Bible is whenever something is used for the first time in the Bible, generally speaking, you are given some information about that word or about that thing that holds true throughout the whole Bible. God doesn't have to tell you again, if He doesn't choose to. So when I see prayer and I see prophecy in prayer, I don't see that as a contradiction. I see it as a fulfillment of what the Bible says we ought to have. If I see someone who says they are a prophet and they don't pray, I don't take them very seriously. Because my Bible says in Jeremiah if they call themselves prophets let them intercede for the people of God. Because in the first verse of the Bible where you have prayer, you have a prophet. The first verse in the

Bible where you have a prophet, you have prayer. They are tied. Part of what we'll see in terms of allowing prayer to be powerful in our lives is through allowing that prophecy in there. That comes into play in some respects in healing, but that's not exactly what we're going to get into today. But we don't want to shut the door to any of the things that God has available to us. What we do is we take these things. We put them into little boxes and then we get upset when God can't get in those boxes. I'm saying, "Let's tear down the walls of the boxes and let's let God in."

He who sins is of the devil, for the devil has sinned from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil (1 John 3:8). Now the devil came to Him and tempted Him. He came back with the Word of God that He had learned through His entire life and upbringing. Remember when He was twelve years old in the temple, Jesus astounded the doctors of the law with His knowledge. He didn't have Holy Spirit. But He was growing in wisdom and strength nevertheless and in grace. When He received the Holy Spirit He was taken up to be tempted of the devil and right away that Spirit upon Him the words He spoke were not just with the wisdom that He had, but with the power to actually knock the devil out after four temptations. Boom. Just knock the devil out until it says at a more opportune time he will come back. The devil will always come back, but we get results when we knock him out for now. See then people can get healed. He'll come back. He'll try to get them another broken leg or whatever. But that's why it's gifts of healings. Because you can get healed of a cold and catch a different cold tomorrow. It looks like the same one, but you can get healed again, you see? He'll come back. We'll just use the authority again. You see? This is the purpose of Jesus' ministry, to destroy the works of the devil. I like that.

When the devil said to Him, all this authority I will give unto you, did Jesus say, "You can't give it to Me. You don't have it." No. He said, it is written.. and He came back with that, but He didn't say, "That's a bluff." When the devil said, All these things I will give unto you. Jesus didn't say, "You can't give me those things. They aren't yours." Because the devil was only tempting Him with things that he had. Do you know what he was tempting Jesus with? He was tempting Him with His own call on His own life. In other words He came, His purpose was, to defeat the devil and destroy his works. Forty days into His ministry the devil tempts him with the answer to what He came for. That was a big temptation. Those four temptations were serious temptations because Jesus knew that was what He was here to do. He is saying, "Hey, this is great. I got the Holy Spirit forty days ago and now it's already over." If He wasn't wise. He had a lot to do before it was over, didn't He.

Remember when He was in the Garden of Gethsemane before He was crucified and He says, "Father, if it's possible, let this cup pass from Me. But nevertheless, not My will but Thy will." Don't you think at that point, here He was up there praying so intensely that sweat was coming out like blood, don't you think He went back in His mind and remembered this? There is an easier way. Can I do it? Father, is there another way? He'd been tempted with another way. Thank God He was faithful because there was only one way. Thank God He

listened when He was under that intense pressure, when he was under that intense, greater temptation in a sense, He was faithful. Nevertheless not My will, but Thy will. He didn't want to die on the cross, but He did it anyway to give us the things that we have but have not been using.

I say it's time we showed our respect for what Jesus accomplished by doing what He said we could do. I'm not so concerned that we become apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, teachers. I'm concerned that we become believers. Because if we'll become believers we'll be laying hands on the sick, they'll be recovering. We'll be taking up serpents. We'll be casting out demons. There are all these things that we should be doing. It doesn't say, "Those that are especially gifted." It says, "Those that are believers." Somebody came up to me and said, "Well, I don't know about what you're doing down there because everybody's speaking in tongues and that's not what Paul said. Paul said, 'Do all speak with tongues?'" I said, "I don't know. I think you're misunderstanding what Paul is saying. You're taking it out of context because Jesus said, 'These signs will follow all those that believe.'"

Now if that is a contradiction, I'm going to take Jesus' words. But I don't think it is a contradiction. But I think it is very clear and I'll be happy to stick with the clear verse wherever I don't understand something fully, I'm going to stick with the clear verse and Jesus said, "These signs will follow those that believe." That's all your name tag needs to say "Believer." And you should be able to do all those things. That's what we're after.

Jesus was tempted with all the authority, all these things. Now I'm just going to tell you that this is something that I believe. I believe that all the dominion on earth was given to Adam and Eve, or actually it wasn't Eve at the time, it was Adam and God looked at them. It says, God created man in His image, male and female. The word "man" is Adam. So before the Fall, Adam was a man and a woman. After the Fall, Adam named her Eve. That's significant actually, but we won't go into it today. But anyway, so there was the man and the woman. The devil came, tempted them, they got kicked out of the Garden, and now the devil has this authority and he has all this stuff. No place in the Bible does it say that the devil had dominion, that he took dominion from them. This is my own personal opinion, but I don't believe the devil had all dominion, ever. I believe he had some of it and what he had, he tempted Jesus with and what he had Jesus came to take back. He never had it all or God couldn't have told Noah, "Go get the animals." Somebody went and got the animals, you see? What he took, he had and he's been taking more ever since. But if he had it all, he would have killed Adam and Eve right then and that would have been the end of the Book. It would have been a short Book. You see? It would have been three chapters and no one would have written it. This is what I believe though. I don't believe the devil ever had it all. I don't believe he has it all now. But what he does have he stole. Jesus took it back from him on the Cross and now it's our job to take back the land. All authority he said I'll give this to you Jesus. Jesus said in Matthew 18, He said, "I have all authority in heaven and earth given to Me." Same word where the devil said, "I'll give this to you if you'll worship me." Later in the Book, Jesus says, "All this has been given to Me." But it was given to Him on different terms. Same word,

though. He got it. The thing is He got it. All authority in heaven and in earth, the devil never did have authority in heaven because Adam didn't. But now Jesus has all authority in heaven and earth and now we're going after these other things, like for instance, the land. Like where He said, "All these things will I give unto you." That map you know with the geography. We have to go get it. Jesus said, "I'm going to make you disciples. I'm sending you out to make disciples of all the nations." That's that map. You see we have the authority in Christ. But what the devil had, he tempted Jesus with and the thing is Jesus took that authority from him and now we need to walk in that authority which we have only through Him and in Him. We are the body of Christ, we are to complete what Jesus came to do which is to destroy all the works of the devil. Right? Does that make sense? Part of the reason we haven't done it is because we have let too much of the authority of Scripture slip by us. Jesus knew the Scriptures so whatever He needed He had. We need to be the same way. We need to have the Scriptures as a foundation for everything that we do. So that the Holy Spirit can work from that sure foundation. Peter said we have a more sure word of prophecy. He was talking about when he went up on the Mount of Transfiguration with the Lord and he saw Moses and he saw Elijah and he saw Jesus in His glory and he said we have a more sure word of prophecy than that and that's the Scriptures. But the Scriptures haven't been that sure for us because we have not understood them like we should.

I'll just give you this verse: Matthew 28:18. I think I quoted it. After He was resurrected He said, "All authority in heaven and earth has been given unto Me..." Before in Genesis when Adam was created and then given dominion on earth, before that, God had all authority, all dominion in heaven and earth, right? But then He gave dominion to Adam on earth. Who still had it in heaven? God. Now if God gave it to Adam, does that mean God still had it? No. He gave it. That's why the devil could steal part of it, right? Because God is not, He doesn't take back what He gives as long as you fulfill the requirements and sometimes it is conditional. In this case it wasn't. He gave it to him. Now to walk in it was conditional. The devil took some of it. But the authority in heaven, God retained. He kept that. That's why you could still see miracles. That's why Elijah could pray and supercede the dominion that the men on the earth were trying to walk in. The devil was trying to walk in their dominion, but there was a higher dominion from heaven.

But after Jesus was raised from the dead, He took back from the devil all authority that he had stolen, plus then God gave Him all authority in heaven. Now I'm telling you what, when you have all authority in heaven and earth in one place. You can do some work. Because you can coordinate that. It's like they say, if you want to mess something up, get a committee. Every time God wants to move then we want to get a committee together and then we stop every thing because we could never get the committee together to ask God to send Jesus. So Jesus doesn't have to be a committee. He's Jesus. He has all authority on heaven and earth, now we as the body, not the committee of Christ, the body of Christ, when He says, bind. We bind. It can be bound in heaven because it can be bound on earth because it's coordinated with heaven and earth. When we say, "Devil, get out." The devil has to get out because it's coordinated in heaven and earth, if devil does not go, angel grabs devil by throat and drags

devil out and it hurts the devil. Praise the Lord. Do you think when it says there is a day coming when every knee shall bow. Do you think the devil's going to say, "Oh, darn. I lost. I think I'll bow now." No way. There's going to be a big ol' angel with his foot on his head. It'll be Jesus' foot and the heel crushing his head. That's what they did to those kings when they captured them. They pushed them down and held their foot on their neck. That's the picture I see the devil bowing. Some of us will bow willingly. Every knee will bow. I'm getting my practice in now.

This is about Jesus. Having disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it (Colossians 2:15). A public spectacle. Back to that same picture of the devil being brought in to bow down before the king that defeated him. They did that in the East. When they captured, you'll see that in the Bible, when Nebuchadnezzar overcame Jerusalem, he took the king and put a hook in his jaw and he dragged him all the way back to Babylon in chains. He made him bow down. He made a public spectacle of that king. They'd bring the gladiators in sometimes and they'd bring the kings in and just show them off to everybody in the coliseum. Say, "Look. Look at this guy. Nothing left of him. He's dirty. Look at him." They poked their eyes out many times so they would be blind like they did with Sampson and they would make a public spectacle. As a matter of fact that's what they were doing with Sampson. After they poked out his eyes, burned out his eyes, they brought him out there when they had all the people together and they had him chained between those two pillars and it says they made sport before the people. They used him and showed him and said, "This is our enemy. Look at what we did to him." I don't know what you think of Sampson, but I say that's a type of Christ, because that's what they did to Jesus Christ. Instead of putting Him on pillars, they put Him on a Cross and Sampson it says, "Defeated more of his enemy in his death than he had in his life." That is what Jesus did. Praise God. Just when they thought Sampson, they died. Just when the devil thought he'd beat the Lord, He got up.

Jesus disarmed the principalities and powers and made a public spectacle of them and triumphed over them.

Why is it the devil still operated in authority and power if Jesus took it all? I like to put it this way. I mean I could show it to you from the Bible. We could spend an hour on that, but I'll just give it to you simple. The devil got a driver's license from Adam. He drove for four thousand years. Jesus took his driver's license away and kicked him out of the car. He left and we let him get back in the driver's seat. He still doesn't have a license to drive and that's why we have all authority to kick him out of the driver's seat. He knows how to drive, though. He didn't forget. But he's defeated. He's lost his driver's license. He got a permanent, eternal DUI. We have the authority, just like the police officer Holy Spirit the authority to pull somebody over, we have the authority to take the devil, pull him over and yank him out of that car. If he tries to take us on a chase, we just send the angels after him because they have the power. Because we're the body of Christ, all authority in heaven and earth is given to our Head, so when we coordinate with Him, whatsoever we ask in prayer, My Father in heaven does it,

right? Because it's His will. You ask anything according to His will, that's the coordination. That's why we put ourselves in the position of receiving the grace when we ask, we receive the devil loses. And the Lord is glorified. People come to Him and we have a harvest with healing all along the way. Preach, teach and heal. That's what Jesus did. Every time He'd preach, He'd teach; He'd heal and then people would get healed, then more people would come. So then preach, teach, and heal. Then great multitudes. Do you see how that goes. Throughout the Bible you see that time and time again especially in the New Testament, because that's when we had the authority ministered to us.

This is a famous verse which we all know. But He was wounded for our transgressions... (Remember, Isaiah is writing this hundreds of years before Christ, but he is writing it in the past tense. It says...) He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, And by His stripes we are healed (Isaiah 53:5). So he is speaking a prophetic word of a vision he saw. He is speaking it in the past tense because he is writing it now from something he's seen. But because of what he saw, and Jesus being whipped and having those strips laid on His back, because of that, Isaiah wrote by His stripes we are healed. This process is put into place. Because of what we see as past, but is still future, we can be healed.

Now I want to show you this same quotation but it is in 1 Peter 2 and verse 24. Here is the way Peter quoted this: ...who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness; by whose stripes you were healed. It's a different, we have missed this because we haven't looked at this, just like we didn't look at Matthew and Luke at the temptations this close. Isaiah said it is an on-going process of by His strips you are healed. That's the way you mostly hear it quoted. But Peter said, by His strips you were healed. Because where is our healing? At the Cross. If we don't feel it, it's still there. We can go get it. It's a past tense thing for us. Just like it's a past tense thing that the devil has already been defeated. We have every right to take him out of the driver's seat. Our health is ours. It's a past tense gift that's already been given to us on the Cross. Peter understood the Scriptures he didn't make a mistake when he wrote this. We have to have that attitude. It's already ours. Nothing can take it from us. By faith we receive it. We have to have that attitude or we'll never walk in the authority.

The Scriptures will define for us our spiritual rights, abilities as well as limits if we do not clearly see what the Scriptures shows us or see the Scriptures through a non-biblical eye sight our understanding will be limited and the abilities in Christ will be hindered. We must redefine what is acceptable as true scriptural prayer in order to have true scriptural results.

Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven (James 5:14-15). So this is what we want to learn more about. Praying for the sick. Laying on of hands so that people are actually raised up so that the healing actually occurs. We want to be able to see this come to pass. We need to understand more about what it is to have a prayer of faith

because a prayer of faith brings a result of things, right? Anyone can pray, but a prayer of faith brings the results. This is what we want to get to. So we'll take a little break and we'll come back.