

May you all experience supernatural elevation!

Pastor Heard

## Part 2: Elevate Your Life!

### Texts:

**Ephesians 2:6-7 (NIV)** - "And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus."

**Luke 9:1-2 (NIV)** - "When Jesus had called the Twelve together, he gave them power and authority to drive out all demons and to cure diseases, and he sent them out to proclaim the kingdom of God and to heal the sick."

**Mark 11:27-28 (NIV)** - "They arrived again in Jerusalem, and while Jesus was walking in the temple courts, the chief priests, the teachers of the law and the elders came to him. "By what authority are you doing these things?" they asked. "And who gave you authority to do this?"

A. God is restoring all things to the church.

1. As recorded in **Acts 3:21 (KJV)**, I believe this is the time of the restitution of all things.
2. "Restitution" is the act of restoring something to its original state. In the Book of Acts, Peter is referring to the restoration of man to his original state before the Fall.
3. God wants to equip us with Kingdom strategies that will accomplish all that man's strategies have failed to do.

4. Our strategies are much like that of the farmer and his watermelon patch. Although the crop had done very well, his main concern was the local kids who loved to sneak into his patch at night and feast on the watermelons. After some careful thought, the farmer devised a clever plan that would surely scare them away for good!  
The next day when the kids showed up, they noticed a sign posted in his field: "Warning! One of the watermelons in this field has been injected with cyanide."  
The kids quickly left, thinking of how they could counteract the farmer's strategy. When the farmer returned the next morning, he noticed that no watermelons were missing. But a sign had been posted next to his that read: "Now, **two** watermelons have cyanide!"
5. Make sure your strategy is workable!

## **"The Twelve Dimensions of Spiritual Authority"**

- B. I've always been intrigued by Psalm 103:7.
  1. **Psalm 103:7 (NIV)** - "He made known his ways to Moses, his deeds to the people of Israel:"
    - a. The "ways" of God refer to the principles upon which our unchanging God bases everything that He does.
    - b. His "ways" are sometimes called Kingdom Principles.
    - c. While Moses was allowed to see and understand the incredible actions of God, Israel could only see what was happening.
  2. It has been said, "Some make things happen, some watch what is happening, and others *wonder* what is happening." Obviously, the group that is making things happen is the best!
  3. These "ways" of God become Kingdom keys when we align ourselves with them.

4. **Genesis 18:19 (KJV)** - "For I know him, that he will command his children and his household after him, and they shall keep the way of the Lord, to do justice and judgment; ***that the LORD may bring upon Abraham that which he hath spoken of him.***"
5. Clearly, by aligning ourselves with God and His ways, we position ourselves to allow Him to fulfill His desire to bless and elevate us.

C. One of the most important of God's ways is learning to discern and function with spiritual authority.

1. Both in the spiritual and natural realm, things have a particular ranking.
  - a. For example, the lion is known as "king of the beasts" because other creatures in the animal kingdom recognize its authority.
2. In the spirit dimension, angels are ranked as archangels or a subordinate role.
3. Paul teaches that the kingdom of darkness also has a hierarchy.
  - a. Beelzebub is called the "prince of devils."
  - b. **Ephesians 6:12 (NKJV)** - "For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places."
  - c. These titles actually denote various levels of authority in the kingdom of darkness.
  - d. "Principalities" refers to magistrates or local authorities.
  - e. In the Greek, "powers" refer to potentates or regional authorities.
  - f. "Ruler" is a prince or lord, such as the ruler of a kingdom.
4. In attempting to establish God's Kingdom on earth, the vital, missing component has been spiritual authority!
  - a. **Ephesians 3:20 (NKJV)** - "Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us."

- b. The NIV says, "According to his power that is at work within us," meaning His power is ALREADY working within us!
    - c. The dictionary defines "authority" as the power or right to make decisions on the behalf of others and to give orders and commands for things to be done—or **not** to be done.
  5. When our own congregation began to grow so that it expanded into two services, I remember that Joe Reyes offered his security personnel to direct traffic.
  6. Spiritual authority gives the legitimate right to make decisions that affect the church, to implement strategies, and to utilize heaven's resources that will fulfill our vision.
  7. Spiritual authority also gives you the legitimate right to resist the advancement of Kingdom purposes and to exercise spiritual power to remove that opposition.
- D. Let's talk about the seven reasons that prevent us from experiencing spiritual authority. Understanding these reasons will help us gain the empowerment that we need.
  1. Believers do not understand the *meaning* of spiritual authority or its benefits.
    - a. It is difficult—if not impossible—to walk in any authority that we do not realize is available to us.
    - b. **Romans 10:15 (NKJV)** - "How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher?"
  2. Believers have failed to recognize or submit to spiritual authority.
    - a. **Matthew 8:9 (NKJV)** - "For I also am a man under authority, having soldiers under me. And I say to this one, 'Go,' and he goes; and to another, 'Come,' and he comes; and to my servant, 'Do this,' and he does it."

- b. The fig tree that Jesus cursed was not in alignment with the "Second Adam."
3. Believers are not spiritually mature.
  - a. **Galatians 4:1-2 (NIV)** - "What I am saying is that as long as an heir is underage, he is no different from a slave, although he owns the whole estate. The heir is subject to guardians and trustees until the time set by his father."
4. Believers have not learned to be faithful stewards.
  - a. **Luke 19:16-19 (KJV)** - "Then came the first, saying, Lord, thy pound hath gained ten pounds. And he said unto him, Well, thou good servant: because thou hast been faithful in a very little, have thou authority over ten cities. And the second came, saying, Lord, thy pound hath gained five pounds. And he said likewise to him, Be thou also over five cities."
  - b. Before God entrusts us with the Kingdom's true wealth and treasure, He watches to see how we handle the simple, inferior things of life, such as money and possessions.
5. Believers have not developed a desire or hunger for spiritual authority.
  - a. **Matthew 17:21 (NKJV)** - "However, this kind does not go out except by prayer and fasting."
  - b. Fasting is often linked with a desire to gain power and authority with God. But that is not the highest purpose.
  - c. Fasting is about breaking the stronghold of the physical world so that our spiritual hunger can increase.
6. Believers have weak faith.
  - a. **Luke 8:25 (NKJV)** - "But He said to them, "Where is your faith?"
7. Believers have become too contented with the "status quo."
  - a. Change will require adjustment, discomfort, and pain.
  - b. Israel actually preferred slavery rather than the discomforts of moving to the Promised Land!

- c. **Number 14:1-4 (NIV)** - "That night all the members of the community raised their voices and wept aloud. All the Israelites grumbled against Moses and Aaron, and the whole assembly said to them, "If only we had died in Egypt! Or in this wilderness! Why is the Lord bringing us to this land only to let us fall by the sword? Our wives and children will be taken as plunder. Wouldn't it be better for us to go back to Egypt?" And they said to each other, "We should choose a leader and go back to Egypt."
- d. This episode was only 30 days after Israel had left Egypt!
- e. Through the years, I've learned that people would rather complain than endure the adjustments that would change the situation.

E. My Prayer for You:

1. I pray that this will be the year that you witness the manifestation of all God's promises to you, the completion of every prophetic word spoken over you, the fulfillment of every dream and vision, and that this will be your year to experience ELEVATION! In Jesus' Name!