Kingdom Living By Connie Witter - www.conniewitter.com

Week 2

The Power To Change the World is Within You!

We learned in last week's message that the Kingdom of God is within you!

I. All the power of Heaven to bring God's will upon the earth is within you!

When Jesus was asked when the Kingdom of God would come, "He replied, ²¹ Nor will people say, Look! Here [it is]! or, See, [it is] there! For behold, the kingdom of God is within you [in your hearts] and among you [surrounding you]." Luke 17:20-21 AMPC

Romans 14:17 describes clearly what the Kingdom of God is: "For God's Kingdom is not a matter of eating and drinking, but of the righteousness, peace, and joy which the Holy Spirit gives." GNC

When we believe the Gospel, the Holy Spirit brings forth the life of God in our hearts and in our lives! The Kingdom of God is manifested in us and among us! Christ in you is the hope of experiencing God's glory in you and among you! WOOHOO!! Colossians 1:26-27 AMPC

II. We are seated with Christ far above every ruler, authority, government, and realm of power in existence

Ephesians 1:19-21: ¹⁹ I pray that you will continually experience the immeasurable greatness of God's power made available to you through faith. Then your lives will be an advertisement of this immense power as it works through you! This is the mighty power ²⁰ that was released when God raised Christ from the dead and exalted him to the place of highest honor and supreme authority in the heavenly realm! ²¹ And now he is exalted as first above every ruler, authority, government, and realm of power in existence! He is gloriously enthroned over every name that is ever praised, not only in this age, but in the age that is coming! TPT

Ephesians 2:6: "God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus."

• The same power that raise Jesus from the dead lives in you!

- God raised you up with Jesus and seated you with Him in the Heavenly Realm. You are seated with Him in the place of highest honor and supreme authority- far above every ruler, authority, government, and realm of power in existence.
- III. <u>Jesus builds His church on the revelation of who He is and who we are in Him and the gates of hell will not prevail against it.</u>

Matthew 16:17-19: ¹⁶ Simon Peter spoke up and said, "You are the Anointed One, the Son of the living God!" ¹⁷ Jesus replied, "You are favored and privileged Simeon, son of Jonah! For you didn't discover this on your own, but my Father in heaven has supernaturally revealed it to you. ¹⁸ I give you the name Peter, a stone. And this truth of who I am will be the bedrock foundation on which I will build my church—my legislative assembly, and the power of death will not be able to overpower it! ¹⁹ I will give you the keys of heaven's kingdom realm to forbid on earth that which is forbidden in heaven, and to release on earth that which is released in heaven." TPT

The Greek word for "church" is *ekklesia* and means "legislative assembly" or "selected ones." This is not a religious term at all, but a political and governmental term that is used many times in classical Greek for a group of people who have been summoned and gathered together to govern the affairs of a city. For Jesus to use this term means he is giving the keys of governmental authority in his kingdom to the church.

-See R. Scott and H. G. Liddell, *A Greek-English Lexicon*, p. 206; J. H. Thayer, *A Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament*, p. 196; and Oskar Seyffert, *A Dictionary of Classical Antiquities*, pp. 202–203.

Gates of Hell or Power of death will not be able to overpower it:

"all the forces of hell will never have the power to win a victory over it!" There is no power of darkness that can stop the advancing church that Jesus builds.

The "keys" are symbols of authority and ruling power.

Verse 19: We've been given the authority to rule over the principalities and rulers of darkness and enforce the Father's kingdom and will upon the earth!

Whatever you bind on earth will have been bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will have been loosed in heaven." Or "That which you forbid on earth must be that which is already forbidden in heaven, and that which you permit on earth must be that which is already permitted in heaven."

Luke 10:19-20: "19 Now you understand that I have imparted to you all my authority to trample over his kingdom. You will trample upon every demon before you and overcome every power Satan possesses. Absolutely nothing will be able to harm you as you walk in this authority. 20 However, your real source of joy isn't merely that these spirits submit to your authority, but that your names are written in the journals of heaven and that you belong to God's kingdom. This is the true source of your authority." TPT

- You've been given authority to trample over Satan's kingdom of darkness. You
 will overcome every deception and anti-Christ spirit that comes from him. And
 nothing will be able to harm you as you walk in this authority!
- Our true source of Joy is that we belong to God's Kingdom and we have eternal life. That is the true source of our authority!

IV. Greater is He that's Within You than the antichrist spirit that's in the world

1 John 4:3-6: "3 Every spirit that does not confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is not of God. And this is the *spirit* of the Antichrist, which you have heard was coming, and is now already in the world.⁴ You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world. NKJV

⁵They are of the world *and* belong to it; therefore they speak from the [viewpoint of the] world [with its immoral freedom and baseless theories—demanding compliance with their opinions and ridiculing the values of the upright], and the [gullible one of the] world listens closely *and* pays attention to them. ⁶ We [who teach God's word] are from God [energized by the Holy Spirit], and whoever knows God [through personal experience] listens to us [and has a deeper understanding of Him]. Whoever is not of God does not listen to us. By this we know [without any doubt] the spirit of truth [motivated by God] and the spirit of error [motivated by Satan]." AMP

The fruit of the Anti Christ spirit- has a worldly viewpoint and demands compliance with their opinions by ridiculing the values of the upright.

- Example: Peter- Right after Jesus taught Peter that He has authority over the enemy he was influenced by an anti-Christ spirit- Get thee behind me Satan.
- Matthew 16:23 "Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle in my path, because your thinking is from a human perspective, not from God's perspective!"

- Recognizing and aware that Peter would be influenced again by an anti-Christ spirit, He said to Peter- you are going to fail, but I will pray for you and you will come out stronger and you will strengthen your brothers when they fail. Luke 22:32
- When we see from a Kingdom perspective we recognize the anti-christ spiritthose with a worldly viewpoint who are speaking in opposition to God, and we speak what God says over them and the situation.

We are from God: We listen to and believe God's Word and are energized by the Holy Spirit

1 John 5:4-5;10-15: ⁴ For everyone born of God is victorious *and* overcomes the world; and this is the victory that has <u>conquered and overcome the world</u>—our <u>[continuing, persistent] faith [in Jesus the Son of God].</u> ⁵ Who is the one who is victorious *and* overcomes the world? It is <u>the one who believes and recognizes the</u> fact that Jesus is the Son of God.

- Revelations 12:11 says we overcome by the blood of the lamb and the world of our testimony
- Conquered mean: to Enforce the victory Jesus won by the force of your voice

¹³ These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God [which represents all that Jesus Christ is and does], so that you will know [with settled and absolute knowledge] that you [already] have eternal life. ¹⁴ This is the [remarkable degree of] confidence which we [as believers are entitled to] have before Him: that if we ask anything according to His will, [that is, consistent with His plan and purpose] He hears us. ¹⁵ And if we know [for a fact, as indeed we do] that He hears and listens to us in whatever we ask, we [also] know [with settled and absolute knowledge] that we have [granted to us] the requests which we have asked from Him. AMP

James 5:16 say, "The earnest (heartfelt, continued) prayer of a righteous man makes tremendous power available [dynamic in its working]." AMPC

As we believe the Gospel and embrace our identity that we are the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus, we will live fearless in this world because we know the enemy and His evil influence is no match for the power of the Holy Spirit within us! Greater is He that is within us than the antichrist spirit that's in the world! We win because of Jesus! The enemy's plans will come to nothing and the kingdom of God will manifest in the hearts of men as we take our authority and pray that our Father's will be done on earth as it is in heaven! We are the legislative assembly! The Kingdom of God is in us! We have the power within us to change the world!

Psalm 112:6-10: Those who are righteous will be long remembered. ⁷ They do not fear bad news; they confidently trust the LORD to care for them. ⁸ They are confident and fearless and can face their foes triumphantly. ⁹ They share freely and give generously to those in need. Their good deeds will be remembered forever. They will have influence and honor. ¹⁰ The wicked will see this and be infuriated. They will grind their teeth in anger; they will slink away, their hopes thwarted. NLT