



TREE OF LIFE
TABERNACLE

PROVERBS 3:18

Relational Authority

Part 7

The Word of God, Removes
Foundational Strongholds

Part Six Highlights: Guarding the Covenant

- God backs His servants when they are operating under His authority, covenant and assignment.
- Paul and Barnabas were sent by the Ruach ha-Kodesh and invited by the proconsul before confronting Elymas, establishing spiritual and relational authority before conflict occurred. Elymas opposed the Gospel directly and attempted to interfere with God's mission, prompting Spirit-led confrontation and judgment. **Acts 13:8-11**
- Darkness often attempts to interfere when God is advancing His covenant purposes, particularly through deception, intimidation and political opposition.
- Herod Agrippa acted under demonic influence to persecute the believing community, killing James and imprisoning Peter without cause. **Acts 12:1-4**
- God's judgment fits the crime: Elymas interfered and was blinded temporarily; Herod shed innocent blood and later died under divine judgment. **Acts 12:21-24**
- Satan frequently "overplays his hand," creating opportunities for God to display greater authority, power and vindication. **Exodus 7:8-13, Acts 13:12**
- God's miraculous intervention is intended to advance His mission and confirm His Word, not merely display power. **Deuteronomy 26:8**
- Believers are not called to seek out spiritual conflict, but to faithfully carry out God's assignments and respond when darkness intrudes into covenant territory.

Part Six Highlights: Guarding the Covenant

- In Macedonia, Paul was specifically directed by the Spirit after multiple other locations were blocked. **Acts 16:6-10**
The Gospel entered Europe peacefully through Lydia before demonic opposition emerged through the slave girl with a spirit of divination. **Acts 16:11-18**
- The danger in Acts 16 was not false words, but false association, a demonic spirit attempting to attach itself to the Gospel witness. Paul discerned patiently and did not react impulsively; he responded according to timing, protocol and the Spirit's leading. **Acts 16:16-18**
- Just as Yeshua rejected demonic testimony concerning His identity, Paul rejected demonic endorsement of the Gospel mission. **Mark 5:7, Luke 1:32, Luke 4:41**
- Deliverance often provokes backlash from darkness, including persecution, false accusation and pressure against God's servants. **Acts 16:19-24**
- God flipped the situation in Philippi: imprisonment became an opportunity for salvation, deliverance and public vindication. **Acts 16:25-39**
- Biblical spiritual authority flows from submission, covenant alignment and obedience, not recklessness, pride or "demon hunting." **James 4:7**
- Believers must remain under God-ordained authority, discern timing carefully and confront darkness only when it interferes with God's mission, covenant or assignment. **Hebrews 13:17, Acts 16:16-18**
- The apostles did not go looking for fights; they guarded the covenant borders and trusted God to defend His purposes. **Psalms 27:1-14**
- The greater the demonic interference against God's work, the greater the opportunity for God to reveal His power, faithfulness and victory.

The POWERFUL “Word of God”

- The Kingdom of God advances through the Word of God.
- Creation was spoken into existence by the Word, the prophets were guided by the Word, Yeshua is the incarnate Word, and spiritual victory comes through agreement with and obedience to God’s spoken Word.
- The Word of God is not merely information from God; it is the active expression of His authority, will, covenant and power.
- Let’s start with a few examples:

Gen 1:1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

Gen 1:3 Then God said, “Let there be light!” and there was light.

Heb 1:2 In these last days He has spoken to us through a Son, whom He appointed heir of all things and through whom He created the universe.

The POWERFUL “Word of God”

John 1:1-3 In the beginning was the Word. The Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. All things were made through Him, and apart from Him nothing was made that has come into being.

- **Yeshua, the word of God**

Revelation 19:11-16 Then I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse! The One riding on it is called Faithful and True, and He judges and makes war in righteousness. His eyes are like a flame of fire, and many royal crowns are on His head. He has a name written that no one knows except Himself. He is clothed in a robe dipped in blood, and the name by which He is called is “the Word of God.” And the armies of heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, were following Him on white horses. From His mouth comes a sharp sword—so that with it He may strike down the nations—and He shall rule them with an iron rod, and He treads the winepress of the furious wrath of Elohei-Tzva’ot. On His robe and on His thigh He has a name written, “King of kings, and Lord of lords.”

The POWERFUL “Word of the Lord”

The preincarnate Yeshua appearing to Abraham:

Gen 15:1 After these things the word of Adonai came to Abram in a vision saying, “Do not fear, Abram. I am your shield, your very great reward.”

▪ It’s meant to be passed down generationally **Gen 15:2-6**

Ezekiel 1:3 the word of Adonai came to Ezekiel the kohen, son of Buzi, in the land of the Chaldeans by the river Chebar. (The hand of Adonai was upon him there.) [To whom is the arm of the Lord been revealed?]

Jonah 1:1 Now the word of Adonai came to Jonah, son of Amittai, saying:

Revelation 19:10 Then I fell down at his feet and worshiped him. But he said to me, “See that you do not do that—for I am only a fellow servant with you and your brothers and sisters who hold to the testimony of Yeshua.

Worship God! For the testimony of Yeshua is the Spirit of Prophecy.”

The POWERFUL “Word of the Lord”

Jeremiah 1:2 The word of Adonai came to him (Jeremiah) during the days of King Josiah of Judah, son of Amon, in the thirteenth year of his reign.

Jeremiah 1:12 Then Adonai said to me, “You have seen correctly, for I am watching over My word to perform it.”

Isaiah 55:10 For as the rain and snow come down from heaven, and do not return there without having watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to sow and bread to eat, so My word will be that goes out from My mouth. It will not return to Me in vain, but will accomplish what I intend, and will succeed in what I sent it for. “Yes, you will go out with joy and be led forth with peace. The mountains and the hills will break forth before you singing, and all the trees of the field will clap their hands! Instead of the thorn bush, a cypress will come up, and instead of the brier, a myrtle will come up, and it will be a memorial to Adonai, as an everlasting sign that will never be cut off

The POWERFUL “Word of God”

James 4:12 There is only one lawgiver and judge—the One who is able to save and to destroy. But who are you who judges your neighbor? (Read: **Isa 33:22 = Acts 4:12 & 2 Cor 5:10**)

- Isaiah declares that YHWH alone is Lawgiver, Judge, King and Savior (**Isaiah 33:22**). James echoes there is only one Lawgiver and Judge (**James 4:12**), Acts proclaims there is only one Name by which we are saved - Yeshua (**Acts 4:12**), and Paul says we will all stand before the judgment seat of Messiah (**2 Corinthians 5:10**). The Father and Son work in perfect unity under one divine authority and covenant purpose.

Zech 14:9 Adonai will then be King over all the earth. In that day Adonai will be Echad and His Name Echad. (Ushemo echad)

The POWERFUL “Word of God”

Heb 4:12 For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword—piercing right through to a separation of soul and spirit, joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. (Logos = full word of God, all of it!)

Eph 6:17b the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. (Rhema = Spoken word of God, lead by the Spirit)

Mat 5:17-18 “Do not think that I came to abolish the Torah or the Prophets! I did not come to abolish, but to fulfill. Amen, I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not the smallest letter or serif shall ever pass away from the Torah until all things come to pass.”

- He’ll see to it that it is fulfilled **Isaiah 55, Jeremiah 1**
- It’s FULL when Heaven and Earth pass away. Covenant **Deut 30:19**

The POWERFUL “Word of God”

- We should walk in the FULL council of the Word of God! **Acts 20:27**
- Since Yeshua is both the Word of God and the Spirit of Prophecy, how could a Spiritual Word or Prophecy ever conflict with the Written Word?
- It can't! Only when the prophecy is not from Yeshua can there be conflict.
- When we say this part of the Bible doesn't apply, you are dividing Yeshua

Exo 24:3 Moshe came and told the people everything Adonai had said, including all the rulings. The people answered with one voice: "We will obey every word Adonai has spoken."

Exo 24:8 Moshe took the blood, sprinkled it on the people and said, "This is the blood of the covenant which Adonai has made with you in accordance with all these words."

- **ALL the Words of the Torah, boiled into the “Ten Words”**

The POWERFUL “Word of God”

Exodus 4:10-15 But Moses said to Adonai, “Adonai, I am not a man of words—not yesterday, nor the day before, nor since You have spoken to Your servant—because I have a slow mouth and a heavy tongue.” So Adonai said to him, “Who made man’s mouth? Or who makes a man mute or deaf, seeing or blind? Is it not I, Adonai? Now go! I will be with your mouth and teach you what to say.” But he said, “Please, please, send it by another hand.” Then the anger of Adonai was kindled against Moses, so He said, “In fact, Aaron the Levite is your brother. I know that he can speak well. Moreover, he is on his way to meet you! When he sees you, he will be glad in his heart. You are to speak to him and put the words in his mouth. I will be with your mouth and with his, and teach you what to do.”

Hearing: The POWERFUL “Word of God”

1Kings 3:5-10 At Giv'on Adonai appeared to Shlomo in a dream at night; God said, "Tell me what I should give you." Shlomo said, "You showed your servant David my father much grace, as he lived before you honestly and righteously, having an upright heart with you. You preserved this great grace for him by giving him a son to sit on his throne, as is the case today. So now, Adonai my God, you have made your servant king in the place of David my father; but I am a mere child — I don't know how to lead! Moreover your servant is among your people, whom you chose, a great people so numerous that they cannot be counted. Therefore, give your servant an understanding heart able to administer justice to your people, so that I can discern between good and bad — for who is equal to judging this great people of yours?" What Shlomo had said in making this request pleased Adonai. ~ CJB

- An “understanding heart” Heb “Lev Shemea” **לב שמע** (A hearing Heart)
- To hear what? The Word of God, through Yeshua and His Spirit to rightly divide situations which is ultimately Wisdom! (Obedient Heart)

Hearing: The POWERFUL “Word of God”

Matthew 10:5-10 Yeshua sent out these twelve and ordered them, “Do not go to the Gentiles, and do not enter into any Samaritan town. But go instead to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. As you go, proclaim, ‘The kingdom of heaven has come near!’ Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse those with tza’arat, drive out demons. Freely you received, freely give. Do not get gold or silver or copper for your money belts, or a bag for the journey, or two shirts, or sandals, or a walking stick; for the worker is entitled to his food. “Whatever town or village you shall enter, find out who in it is worthy and stay there until you leave. As you come into the house, greet it. If the household is worthy, let your shalom come upon it. But if it’s not worthy, let your shalom return to you. And whoever will not receive you or listen to your words, as you leave that house or that town, shake the dust off your feet. Amen, I tell you, it will be more tolerable for Sodom and Gomorrah on the Day of Judgment than for that town.

- **God reveals, instructs and tells us what to say/do! That’s the Power in hearing, speaking and doing! **Judges 6** – YHWH Shalom!**

Hearing/Doing: The POWERFUL “Word of God”

John 20:21-23 Yeshua said to them again, “Shalom aleichem! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you.” And after He said this, He breathed on them. And He said to them, “Receive the Ruach ha-Kodesh! If you forgive anyone’s sins, they are forgiven; but if you hold back, they are held back.”

John 15:4 Abide in Me, and I will abide in you. The branch cannot itself produce fruit, unless it abides on the vine. Likewise, you cannot produce fruit unless you abide in Me. “I am the vine; you are the branches. The one who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for apart from Me, you can do nothing.”

- Nothing of our own, only through Him.
- Hearing HIS WORD, both Physical & Spiritual.

The Word of God Breaks down Strongholds

- The battle between darkness and the Kingdom has always centered around one thing: agreement with the Word of God.
- Every stronghold begins by contradicting God's Word, and every victory begins by returning to it.

2Corinthians 10:3-6 For though we walk in the flesh, we do not wage war according to the flesh. For the weapons of our warfare are not fleshly but powerful through God for the tearing down of strongholds. We are tearing down false arguments and every high-minded thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God. We are taking every thought captive to the obedience of Messiah— ready to punish all disobedience, whenever your obedience is complete.

- That's why we spent time on protection in obedience, obedience aligns us with the Word of God, Yeshua

Heart Idols

Ezekeil 14:3 “Son of man, these men have set up idols in their hearts. They have put the stumbling block of their iniquity right before their faces. Should I let them inquire of me at all?”

Ezekiel 14:5 so I may take hold of the house of Israel in their hearts. For they have all become estranged from Me through their idols.”

Identify the idol that has enslaved your heart.



Idolatry in our Lives

- At the Heart of every Idol is something trying to replace what God has for us:

1 John 2:16 “For all that is in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes and the pride of life—is not from the Father...”

- **Pleasure** Lust of the flesh
- **Riches** Lust of the eyes
- **Glory** Pride of life
- **Power** Pride/self-rule

POWER

Letting control or independence govern one's actions

PLEASURE

Letting enjoyment rule one's choices

RICHES

Letting possessions or security define what matters

GLORY

Letting self-image or others' approval determine one's worth

Idol of Power

- Self Reliance:
- **Exodus 20:3** “*You shall have no other gods before Me.*”

Because honoring authority is tied to:

- humility
- submission
- covenant order

Sinful power often manifests as:

- rebellion
- refusal of accountability
- rejection of rightful authority
- **Matthew 20:25-28** “*The rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them... Yet it shall not be this way among you...*”

POWER

Only God can exercise perfect, wise, and just authority.

“Though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant”

PHILIPPIANS 2:6-7

Idol of Pleasure

- God won't satisfy, I will or this thing will...
- **“Do Not Commit Adultery” Exodus 20:14**
Because biblically, adultery is not merely: sexual misconduct, but a broader picture of: craving fulfillment outside covenant, seeking satisfaction apart from God, allowing appetite/desire to rule.
Matthew 5:27-28 **“Everyone who looks upon a woman to lust after her has already committed adultery with her in his heart.”** Yeshua moves: from outward act to inward appetite. The real issue becomes: **disordered desire. A heart problem!**

PLEASURE

Only God can give perfect, unending joy.

“For he satisfies the longing soul, and the hungry soul he fills with good things.”

PSALM 107:9

Idol of Riches

Exodus 20:15 *“Do not Steal”*

Exodus 20:17 *“You shall not covet...”*

Because the root issue behind “Riches” is:

- trusting possessions for security
- craving what God has not assigned
- believing sufficiency comes through accumulation instead of covenant relationship
- **Matthew 6:19-21** *“Do not store up treasures on earth...”*
- **Matthew 6:24** *“You cannot serve God and mammon.”*
- **Matthew 6:31-33** *“Do not worry... seek first the Kingdom...”*

RICHES

Only God can provide true sufficiency and security.

“The Lord is my shepherd I shall not want”

PSALM 23:1

Idol of Glory

**“Do Not Take the Name of Adonai in Vain”
Exodus 20:7**

- Because this commandment is fundamentally about: representing God rightly.

“Glory” is really about:

- Identity, worth, recognition, approval, image, reputation

And the 3rd commandment confronts:

- false identity, hypocrisy, using God’s name for self-glory, external religion without inner transformation

Matthew 6:1 “Beware of practicing your righteousness before men to be noticed by them...”

GLORY

Only God can make us truly worthy and fully known.

“For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.”

2 CORINTHIANS 5:21

Let God Satisfy

- Every idol promises what only God can truly provide: power, pleasure, security and glory.
- Power → only God has rightful authority
- Pleasure → only God satisfies fully
- Riches → only God secures completely
- Glory → only God defines worth eternally

Psalm 145:15-19 The eyes of all are looking to you; you give them their food at the right time. You open your hand and satisfy the desire of every living thing. Adonai is righteous in all his ways, full of grace in all he does. Adonai is close to all who call on him, to all who sincerely call on him. He fulfills the desire of those who fear him; he hears their cry and saves them.

You cannot quit an idol; you can only find a better God.

Through the POWER of the Word of God!

Sin / Stronghold

Scripture Response

Pride / Self-Exaltation

James 4:6 “God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.”

Lust / Pleasure

Exodus 20:17 “Do not covet”

Fear / Anxiety

Psalms 27:1 “Adonai is my light and salvation; whom shall I fear?”

Greed / Coveting

Psalms 23:1 “Adonai is my Shepherd; I shall not want.”

Anger / Hatred

Psalms 37:8 “Refrain from anger and forsake wrath...”

Deception / Lies

John 8:32 “You shall know the truth, and the truth shall set you free.”

Idolatry

Deut 6:5 “Love Adonai your God with all your heart...”

Rebellion / Self-Will

James 4:7 “Submit yourselves therefore to God...”

Bitterness / Unforgiveness

Eph 4:32 “Forgiving one another...”

Pride of Life / Glory

Gal 6:14 “May I never boast except in the cross...”

Putting the Word of God first:

Psalm 119:11 I have treasured Your word in my heart, so I might not sin against You.

- **Every stronghold begins with agreement against God's Word, and every victory begins with returning to it.**
- **The battle for authority, worship and covenant is ultimately won or lost through agreement with the Word of God.**



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PROVERBS 3:18

Relational Authority

Part Seven:

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Questions & Comments!**