



REVISITED

THE GREAT EXCHANGE

JoLynn Gower

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217-493-6151

jgower@guardingthetruth.org

Lesson 12

VERSE FOR THE JOURNEY

- ✘ **Romans 1:21-25** For even though they knew God, they did not honor Him as God or give thanks, but they became futile in their speculations, and their foolish heart was darkened. Professing to be wise, they became fools, and **exchanged** the glory of the incorruptible God for an image in the form of corruptible man and of birds and four-footed animals and crawling creatures. Therefore God gave them over in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, so that their bodies would be dishonored among them. For they **exchanged** the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen.
- ✘ Exchanged: *allasso*: to alter, to substitute one thing for another

ISSUES OF AUTHORITY

- ✘ Many issues we have considered are antithetical to salvation
- ✘ Now we turn our attention to issues that inhibit our growth as believers
- ✘ **Matthew 28:16-20** But the eleven disciples proceeded to Galilee, to the mountain which Jesus had designated. When they saw Him, they worshiped *Him*; but some were doubtful. And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

THE GREAT COMMISSION

UNRAVELING THE COMMISSION

- × **Authority:** *exousia*: the right to act (or know)
 1. Given by someone/group to another/group
 2. Has a domain that is defined by the one who gave the authority
 3. Must operate according to the rules designed by the one who gave the authority
- × The person with the right to act is Jesus
- × He says that the authority He has was given to Him
- × The domain is heaven and earth
- × **John 12:49-50** “For I did not speak on My own initiative, but the Father Himself who sent Me has given Me a commandment *as to* what to say and what to speak. I know that His commandment is eternal life; therefore the things I speak, I speak just as the Father has told Me.”

USE WITH POWER

- × **Acts 1:4-8** Gathering them together, He commanded them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait for what the Father had promised, "Which," *He said*, "you heard of from Me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now." So when they had come together, they were asking Him, saying, "Lord, is it at this time You are restoring the kingdom to Israel?" He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or epochs which the Father has fixed by His own authority; but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth."

LOOKING AT POWER

- × Power: the ability to act
 - × Power without authority is abusive/tyrannical
 - × Authority without power is impotent
- EXAMPLE: LAW ENFORCEMENT
- × Most of our encounters with the other team will be truth encounters: Satan is a liar
 - × Only occasionally will we have a power encounter; when we do, it is important to be certain that we have the authority to act in a given situation
 - × **Colossians 2:10** ...and in Him you have been made complete; He is the head over all rule and authority;
 - × **Romans 13:1** Every person is to be in subjection to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those which exist are established by God

POWER MEETS HUMILITY

- × **Luke 22:24-30** And there arose also a dispute among them *as to* which one of them was regarded to be greatest. And He said to them, "The kings of the Gentiles lord it over them; and those who have authority over them are called 'Benefactors.' But *it is* not this way with you, but the one who is the greatest among you must become like the youngest, and the leader like the servant. For who is greater, the one who reclines *at the table* or the one who serves? Is it not the one who reclines *at the table*? But I am among you as the one who serves. You are those who have stood by Me in My trials; and just as My Father has granted Me a kingdom, I grant you that you may eat and drink at My table in My kingdom, and you will sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

WHOSE INITIATIVE?

- ✘ **John 16:12-15** "I have many more things to say to you, but you cannot bear *them* now. But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth; for He will not speak on His own initiative, but whatever He hears, He will speak; and He will disclose to you what is to come. He will glorify Me, for He will take of Mine and will disclose *it* to you. All things that the Father has are Mine; therefore I said that He takes of Mine and will disclose *it* to you."
- ✘ Jesus said that He didn't speak on His own initiative
- ✘ Jesus said that the Holy Spirit doesn't speak on His own initiative
- ✘ Where are the instructions coming from? Does the Holy Spirit have all authority?

THE DEVIL'S AUTHORITY

- ✘ **Luke 4:5-8** And he led Him up and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time. And the devil said to Him, "I will give You all this domain and its glory; for it has been handed over to me, and I give it to whomever I wish. Therefore if You worship before me, it shall all be Yours." Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'YOU SHALL WORSHIP THE LORD YOUR GOD AND SERVE HIM ONLY.'"
- ✘ Were these kingdoms the devil's to give?
- ✘ **John 12:31** "Now judgment is upon this world; now the ruler of this world will be cast out."
- ✘ KR model tells us that Jesus purchased redemption rights for the Earth and execution rights for Satan; He hasn't transacted business with the purchase
- ✘ The scope of Jesus authority is therefore key

A BELIEVER'S AUTHORITY

- ✘ **John 16:23-24** "In that day you will not question Me about anything. Truly, truly, I say to you, if you ask the Father for anything in My name, He will give it to you. Until now you have asked for nothing in My name; ask and you will receive, so that your joy may be made full."
- ✘ In my name: *ouden en mou to onomati*: using the authority given by Jesus
- ✘ **John 14:12-15** "Truly, truly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do, he will do also; and greater *works* than these he will do; because I go to the Father. Whatever you ask in My name, that will I do, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask Me anything in My name, I will do *it*. If you love Me, you will keep My commandments."

USING THE AUTHORITY KEY

- ✘ When God asks us to do something, He will grant the authority and power that we need to get the job done
- ✘ Jesus' name isn't a magic word; understanding how Jesus grants authority is key to Christian discipleship
- ✘ **Matthew 16:17-19** And Jesus said to him, "Blessed are you, Simon Barjona, because flesh and blood did not reveal *this* to you, but My Father who is in heaven. I also say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build My church; and the gates of Hades will not overpower it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; and whatever you bind on earth shall have been bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall have been loosed in heaven."
- ✘ NASB, HCSB we act in response to heaven (passive)
- ✘ KJV, ESV imply that heaven acts in response to us

AUTHORIZATION

- × A key is a symbol of authority; someone has authorized access to an area (domain) where work needs to be performed
- × The authority given to us by Jesus will always have a domain associated with it – the area where He wants us to work – our purpose
- × **Romans 8:28** And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to *His* purpose.
- × **Romans 12:4-5** For just as we have many members in one body and all the members do not have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another.