

GOD WANTS A FAMILY 7 - CULTIVATING AUTHORITY AS A SON OF GOD

I. RULING AS A SON IN HIS FAMILY

A. WE HAVE BEEN GIVEN (**DELEGATED**) HIS AUTHORITY

It's not ours, it's always His. It can return to Him

Matt. 28:18 And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All **authority** has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. ¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen.

- **GOD'S AUTHORITY IS FOR THE RESPONSIBILITY WE ARE GIVEN**
- **DISCIPLESHIP IS NOT ONLY ABOUT INFORMATION AND BEHAVIORAL CHANGE. IT IS ABOUT KINGS AND KINGDOMS. IT IS ABOUT FAMILY.**
- **GOD'S FOREVER FAMILY ON EARTH AND IN HEAVEN IS THE GOAL OF ALL DISCIPLESHIP**

Luke 10:19 Behold, I give you the **authority** to trample on serpents and scorpions, and **over all the power of the enemy**, and nothing shall by any means hurt you.

B. WE CAN LOSE HIS AUTHORITY - *Our authority can diminish if we don't handle it with faithfulness and courage*

1. **WE CAN DO NOTHING WITH IT**
2. **WE CAN BELIEVE LIES INSTEAD OF TRUTH**
3. **WE CAN NOT BELIEVE AT ALL**

C. WE CAN INCREASE HIS AUTHORITY (*Who is the greatest?*)

1. **USE THE AUTHORITY ENTRUSTED TO US - HOWEVER SMALL**
2. **CULTIVATE OUR AUTHORITY - DO THINGS TO GROW IT**

3. TRUST AND DEVELOP OTHERS - INFLUENCE not LORDING

Luke 19:16 Then came the first, saying, "Master, your mina has earned ten minas." ¹⁷ And he said to him, "Well done, good servant; **because you were faithful in a very little, have authority over ten cities.**" ¹⁸ And the second came, saying, "Master, your mina has earned five minas." ¹⁹ Likewise he said to him, "**You also be over five cities.**" ²⁰ "Then another came, saying, 'Master, here is your mina, which **I have kept put away in a handkerchief.**'" ²¹ For I **feared you, because you are an austere man. You collect what you did not deposit, and reap what you did not sow.**" ²² And he said to him, "Out of your own mouth I will judge you, you wicked servant. You knew that I was an austere man, collecting what I did not deposit and reaping what I did not sow." ²³ Why then did you not put my money in the bank, that at my coming I might have collected it with interest?" ²⁴ "And he said to those who stood by, '**Take the mina from him, and give it to him who has ten minas.**'" ²⁵ (But they said to him, "Master, he has ten minas.") ²⁶ "For I say to you, that **to everyone who has will be given; and from him who does not have, even what he has will be taken away from him.**"

II. CULTIVATING OUR AUTHORITY AS A SON OF GOD

A. THE FORMULA FOR DEVELOPING GREATER AUTHORITY:

- **Submission** (TO HIS LORDSHIP) +
- **Obedience** (TO HIS WORD) +
- **Consecration** (MAINTAIN HOLINESS - Toothbrush Story) +
- **Intimacy** (ABIDING IN CHRIST/UNION WITH CHRIST) =
- **AUTHORITY**

B. NOW PAY PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO THESE THINGS:

1. **OUR WORSHIP AND OUR PARTNERSHIPS** (Covenants, Believing Lies, Agreements, Partnering and Trading)
 - **HAVE NO MIXTURE - 100% PURE. NO BLENDING OF GOD WITH THE NATIONS. The Singularity of Worship. ONE GOD. IT'S NOT GOD FIRST, IT'S GOD ALONE**

- **HE IS THE LORD GOD - WORSHIP IN RESPONSE TO HIS COVENANT AND HIS PERSON. HE IS WORTHY NO MATTER WHAT WE MIGHT GAIN FROM IT**
- **HAVE NO TOLERANCE FOR EVIL-** *The corruption caused by **Elohim** is deeply evil. **DNA** (Gen. 6:1-4 not passion- strategic trading for access to human DNA)*
- **ALL IDOLATRY IS TRADING** *(Giving something future in return for benefit now) **Bondage even genetic (addiction / sickness)***
- **THE LORD'S TABLE** *(in Hebrew- ALTAR) AND THE TABLE (ALTARS) OF DEMONS. Participation- giving and receiving*

1Cor. 10:21 *You cannot drink the cup of the **Lord** and the cup of demons; you cannot partake of the **Lord's table** and of the **table** of demons.*

2. **WHAT WE DO WITH OUR SUFFERING - Suffering is a necessary component for admittance to higher levels of authority** *because this crucible purifies motives / clarifies focus. GOD DOESN'T CAUSE IT - BUT HE WILL USE IT*

Rom. 8:17 *and if children, then heirs— heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together. 18 For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which **shall be revealed in us.***

- **THERE IS A MATURITY THAT DEVELOPS IN THE CRUCIBLE OF SUFFERING** *when **your opinions and the idea of who you are cease to matter** because you realize there is only one Person who matters. You stand before God without pretense, bare and bereft of all that we ourselves have built and come to trust only in Him.*

Prov. 17:3 *The **refining pot** is for **silver** and the **furnace** for gold, But the LORD tests the hearts.*

- **SUFFERING CAUSES US PAIN and hardship or** - *or we can allow God's perfecting work to accomplish the **greater work of increased authority and a fullness of inheritance in our life.***
- **SUFFERING IS NOT A GOAL.** *It's just another stop on the path to glory. DON'T CAMP THERE*

3. HOW DO WE APPLY GOD'S GRACE TO OUR OBEDIENCE?

Don't be your own coach. Let Holy Spirit do it.

RIGHTEOUSNESS. LOVE. PUT ON NEW NATURE

1John 3:8 *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.*** ⁹ *Whoever has been born of God does not sin, for **His (GOD'S) seed remains** in him; and **he cannot sin, because he has been born of God.** (NOT ABOUT CAPACITY, but about our habitual practice)* ¹⁰ ***In this the children of God and the children of the devil are manifest:** Whoever does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor is he who does not love his brother.*

Col. 3:5 NLT ***So put to death the sinful, earthly things lurking within you.** Have nothing to do with sexual immorality, impurity, lust, and evil desires. Don't be greedy, for **a greedy person is an idolater, worshipping the things of this world.*** ⁶ *Because of these sins, the anger of God is coming.* ⁷ *You used to do these things when your life was still part of this world.* ⁸ *But now is the time to get rid of anger, rage, malicious behavior, slander, and dirty language.* ⁹ *Don't lie to each other, for **you have stripped off your old sinful nature** and all its wicked deeds.* ¹⁰ ***Put on your new nature,** and **be renewed as you learn to know your Creator and become like him.***

III. USING OUR AUTHORITY AS A SON - BE WILLING TO BE THE LEAST IN ORDER TO BE THE GREATEST. PAUL's journey - FIRST "I'm an apostle too", THEN "I am least of apostles" THEN "I am chief of sinners", FINALLY "I am least of all saints"

Eph. 3:8 ***To me, who am less than the least of all the saints, this grace was given,** that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ,* ⁹ *and to make all see what is the **fellowship of the mystery**, which from the beginning of the ages has been hidden in God who created all things through Jesus Christ;* ¹⁰ ***to the intent that now the manifold wisdom of God might be made known by the church to the principalities and powers in the heavenly places,*** ¹¹ *according to the **eternal purpose** which **He accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord,*** ¹² *in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through faith in Him.*