

## THE AUTHORITY OF GOD

HELLO. THANK YOU FOR JOINING WITH US.

TODAY, I WANT TO LOOK AT THE WORD AUTHORITY – HAVE YOU NOTICED IT BEING QUESTIONED?

**AUTHORITY** – IS SIMPLY EXPLAINED AS THE RIGHT TO EXERCISE POWER.

Q: WHERE DOES AUTHORITY COME FROM?

**ISAIAH 61**

Q: WHAT GREATER PURPOSE WILL HIS AUTHORITY ACCOMPLISH?

Q: WHO SHOULD BENEFIT FROM THIS AUTHORITY?

BEFORE JESUS ASCENDED, HE WAS VERY CLEAR ABOUT WHAT HE WANTED US TO DO. – TO GO INTO ALL THE WORLD AND PREACH THE GOSPEL. THIS COMMAND IS 'WHAT' HE WANTED US TO DO. BUT HE LEFT 'HOW' TO DO IT, UP TO US.

IN TODAY'S MESSAGE WE'LL ALSO GET TO SEE 'WHY' HE WANTS US TO FOLLOW HIS EXAMPLE.

**JOHN 17** – JESUS PRAYS FOR HIMSELF, HIS DISCIPLES, AND THOSE WHO WILL FOLLOW THEM

YET, WHAT I WANT TO CONCENTRATE ON IS HOW HE CHOSE TO LIVE WITH AN UNSHAKEABLE SENSE OF PURPOSE, PASSION, AND PEACE ----- EVEN THOUGH THE CROSS WAS BEFORE HIM.

IN READING JOHN 17, JESUS GIVES US A PERFECT EXAMPLE/ MODEL OF LIVING IN RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD - BY PRAYING FOR HIMSELF, HIS DISCIPLES, AND THOSE WHO WILL FOLLOW THEM; AND BY CARING ABOUT THE PEOPLE WHO ARE PRESENTLY WITH HIM AND EVEN THOSE WHO ARE YET TO BE; AND BY SHARING HIS LIFE, HIS NAME, HIS POWER, AND HIS JOY.

HOW DID HE LIVE ---- KNOWING THAT HIS LIFE ON EARTH WAS ABOUT TO CHANGE?

- GENEROUS:        **Q:** HOW CAN I LIVE A LIFE OF GENEROSITY?
- GRACIOUS:       **Q:** WHO CAN I BE MORE GRACIOUS TOWARD?
- GRATEFUL:       **Q:** HOW CAN I LET OTHERS KNOW THAT I CARE?
- GROWTH:         **Q:** WHAT CAN I SHARE WITH PEOPLE AROUND ME?
- GOODNESS:       **Q:** WHERE CAN I BEGIN TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

WHY DID HE LIVE THIS WAY ----- AND WANT US TO LIVE THIS SAME WAY?

- GLORY  
(HOLINESS, BEAUTY, POWER, AUTHORITY, JUSTICE, AND RIGHTEOUSNESS; THE REALITY OF GOD'S KINGDOM AVAILABLE TO EVERYONE – THE FATHER, SON & SPIRIT SEEN IN US)
- GLADNESS

THIS SAME JOY THAT JESUS EXPERIENCED IS AVAILABLE TO EACH ONE OF US.

• **HEB.12:1-2** THEREFORE, SINCE WE ARE SURROUNDED BY SUCH A HUGE CROWD OF WITNESSES TO THE LIFE OF FAITH, LET US STRIP OFF EVERY WEIGHT THAT SLOWS US DOWN, ESPECIALLY THE SIN THAT SO EASILY TRIPS US UP. AND LET US RUN WITH ENDURANCE THE RACE GOD HAS SET BEFORE US. WE DO THIS BY KEEPING OUR EYES ON JESUS, THE CHAMPION WHO INITIATES AND PERFECTS OUR FAITH. BECAUSE OF THE JOY AWAITING HIM, HE ENDURED THE CROSS, DISREGARDING ITS SHAME. NOW HE IS SEATED IN THE PLACE OF HONOR BESIDE GOD'S THRONE.

• **HEB. 4:14-16** ... SINCE WE HAVE A GREAT HIGH PRIEST WHO HAS ENTERED HEAVEN, JESUS THE SON OF GOD, LET US HOLD FIRMLY TO WHAT WE BELIEVE. THIS HIGH PRIEST OF OURS UNDERSTANDS OUR WEAKNESSES, FOR HE FACED ALL OF THE SAME TESTINGS WE DO, YET HE DID NOT SIN. SO, LET US COME BOLDLY TO THE THRONE OF OUR GRACIOUS GOD. THERE WE WILL RECEIVE HIS MERCY, AND WE WILL FIND GRACE TO HELP US WHEN WE NEED IT MOST.

- WHERE ARE YOU IN RELATIONSHIP TO GOD?

**Q:** ARE YOU READY TO APPROACH GOD?

**Q:** WILL YOU LAY DOWN YOUR LIFE TODAY, SO THAT HE CAN HELP YOU BEGIN TO LIVE IN RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD – THE FATHER, THE SON, AND THE SPIRIT?

• UNLESS WE CHANGE AND BECOME LIKE LITTLE CHILDREN, WE WILL NEVER ENTER THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN. (MATT.18:3)

• TO KNOW GOD'S LOVE, WE MUST BEGIN TO KNOW HIS SON, JESUS

• FOR JESUS SAYS, 'NO ONE COMES TO THE FATHER EXCEPT THROUGH ME' (JOHN 14:6)

• JESUS SAID, 'WHOEVER WANTS TO BE MY DISCIPLE MUST DENY THEMSELVES AND TAKE UP THEIR CROSS DAILY AND FOLLOW ME.' (LUKE 9:23)

• ... LET GO OF THAT WHICH IS TOO HEAVY FOR YOU, AND LET GOD HELP YOU...

• WHEN THE DISCIPLES ASKED JESUS 'HOW TO PRAY' – JESUS SAID TO ASK THE FATHER FOR HIS KINGDOM TO COME, AND FOR HIS WILL TO BE DONE, ON EARTH AS IT IS IN HEAVEN (MAT.6:10)