

## SPIRITUAL WARFARE 101 (2)

### 2. SECOND PRINCIPLE: CHRISTIANS HAVE SPIRITUAL AUTHORITY.

As a born again Christian, you have spiritual authority through Jesus Christ, our Lord. The Lord God is over all things in Heaven and on the Earth. He is the Creator. He is omnipotent, omnipresent and omniscient. He is in control at all times. His Son, Jesus Christ is sitting on the right hand of the Father. The Lord God gave His Son all authority, Matthew 28:18-20. "All power is given unto me in heaven and earth. Go ye therefore ."

The dictionary describes the word "authorize" as "empowered with legal authority". W.E. Vines identifies "authority" comes from a Greek word, "exousia", which literally means, "delegated from someone else", "power of authority" or delegated authority as to act in the place of another person." We need Christ's authority to witness to others and teach them about Christ. We also need Christ's authority when we face temptations and when Satan, the enemy, attacks us.

The Believer's authority In Christ Jesus is a fact. The Heavenly Father charted it, our Lord Jesus Christ pledged it, and the Holy Spirit within us enables us to use that designated authority every day. J. A. McMillan is quoted in Mark Bubeck's book, The Adversary, "this authority is the portion of every Believer. It is not a special gift...but an inherent right of every child of God."

Exerting your authority In Christ is not innate but it is learned. You acquired it when you were born again, though you did not request it. A Christian does not learn to exert his authority In Christ automatically. The only way to learn it is to do it. Some Believers know about this authority, but have never tried to exert their authority In Christ. Some Christian Believers choose to ignore the enemy attacks, while others are fearful of the counter attacks.

The question is, "What about you?" Are you ready to learn your authority In Christ and stand, withstand, and resist Satan in the evil day? (Ephesians 6:13) Are you ready to utilize Christ's authority as you pray for salvation for others?

To learn more about your authority In Christ and how to use it, order Levels of Spiritual Maturity by Dr. B. H. Upton, Price: \$10.00 Plus Shipping. Send request to: Dr. B.H. Upton, 6254 Townsend Road, Jacksonville, Florida, 32244.