



Authority and Responsibility

Who Will You Serve?

Luke 4:1-15

Who you serve will determine the kind of power and authority available to you! Serve anything or anyone other than God and you fall short of what you were created for.

A. Use it or Lose It: My Responsibility James 4:7; 8-11

1. Submit yourselves therefore to God.
I MUST do this first or resisting will be useless!
2. Resist the devil...
If I don't resist—he will NOT flee!
3. ...and he will flee from you.

James explains some of what is meant by 'submit to God' in verses 8-11. If I am NOT submitted to God in these areas—they become open doors for the attack of the enemy.

B. How Jesus Resisted Satan Luke 4:1-15

Empowerment: Jesus was both the 'Son of God' and the 'Son of Man.' *Son of Man* generally refers to the Messiah's humanity. He lived His humanity the same way we do; in the 'empowerment of the Holy Spirit.'

Luke 2:21-22; Luke 4:1; John 5:27; Phil 2:5-11

1. Satan's power: Deception

- If you are... :3 *...command!*
- If you will... :7 *...all will be yours!*
...I will (Satan) give you authority :6
- If you are... :9 *...throw Yourself!*

Each "if" statement is a temptation to use 'power-authority' for a selfish gain. 1 John 2:16 The enemy also uses 'if' statements with us to cause 'doubt' (*unbelief*) about who we are in Christ.

2. Jesus power: The TRUTH (Word of God)

Note: Even Satan can use scripture—but he will always use it in a deceptive manner. 4:10-11

Write your name in each blank below!

- It is written... :4 *See Deut 8:3*
Man (____) shall live by the Word of God!
- It is written... :8 *See Deut 6:13*
Man (____) shall worship and serve 'only' God!
- It has been said... :12 *See Deut 6:16; Ex 17:1-7*
Man (____) shall NOT test/tempt God.

C. Taking Responsibility Rom 6:16 NLT

Don't you realize that you become the slave (servant) of whatever you choose to obey? You can be a slave to sin (serve sin), which leads to death, or you can choose to obey God (serve God), which leads to righteous living.

Who or what you choose to obey will determine what the rest of your day and maybe the rest of your life will be like!

Using Authority

Mark 6:30-44

Besides being responsible to resist the enemy with the authority that God has given us—we are responsible to use that same authority to bless others.

A. Ministering: We see at least two aspects of ministry in this passage! 1) Teaching/sharing the Word and 2) Providing for physical needs.

B. Two views of life!

1. :35-37 Glass is half empty
The view of...

- ...limited resources
- ...inaccurate assessment
- ...disassociated responsibility
- ...powerlessness
- ...unbelief

2. :37-40 Glass is half full
The view of...

- ...unlimited resources
- ...seeing God's perspective
- ...taking responsibility
- ...using power-authority
- ...faith-belief

C. What Jesus said!

1. "You give them something to eat." :37 —Jesus was teaching them compassion and responsibility. He made them responsible to meet a need that was beyond their ability.

2. "How many loaves do you have? Go and see." :38 —From the disciples limited resource to God's unlimited provision.

D. What Jesus did! :41

1. He looked to heaven. God has 'authority' over all things. He is the source of all things.

2. He gave the disciples the job of passing out the *now-blessed* 'limited' provision which fed everyone from an unlimited source.

By faith God can expand every resource we lack!