

Jesus Still Has Authority!

Mark 1:²¹ *And they went into Capernaum, and immediately on the Sabbath he entered the synagogue and was teaching.* ²² *And they were astonished at his teaching, for he taught them as one who had authority, and not as the scribes.*

EQ: Jesus still has all the authority in the universe and for all time. He calls you and me his body in this world. What authority do we have and how do we put it to work?

WHAT IS AUTHORITY?

the power to determine, adjudicate, or otherwise settle issues or disputes; jurisdiction; the right to control, command, or determine.

There are **THREE WAYS** to exercise authority:

- Force—most common!
- Teaching that is Accurate and Convicting
- Actions that Produce Results.

Have you ever been astonished? I remember in my first congregation in Dayton Ohio I had a truly astonishing moment that changed my life.

“In the name of Jesus and by his shed blood be silent and stop.”



What are the Characteristics of Astonishing Biblical Teaching:

- brings heart-felt conviction,
- brings change in attitudes and behavior
- brings about repentance
- converts the lost
- brings reconciliation
- produces action that glorifies Jesus.
- upsets the demons

It has everything to do with a believes confidence, risk and faith in Jesus since:

- We Know who we are in Jesus Christ.**
- We know our Purpose**
- We know who is the one of power Jesus**
- We refuse to be intimidated or back down from Jesus' name and truth in the word.**

²³ *And immediately there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit. And he cried out,* ²⁴ *“What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God.”* ²⁵ *But Jesus rebuked him, saying, “Be silent, and come out of him!”* ²⁶ *And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying out with a loud voice, came out of him.*

We have three choices when it comes to talking about “unclean spirits” or “demons”

They only existed in Jesus' time.

Jesus didn't know what mental illness was.

Demons are real and can inhabit people which is often portrayed in strange ways and misdiagnosed.

The ministry of confronting the demonic is not simply one minor ministry among many that needs to be

Items in **RED** are things to pray about this week! Rev. Thomas Parrish

resurrected in today's Church, but that Jesus' ministry of deliverance is central to an understanding of the Gospel: *"The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil's work" (1 John 3:8).*

Two mistaken views Christians have about demons

There are two equal and opposite errors into which our race can fall about the devils. One is to disbelieve in their existence. The other is to believe, and to feel an excessive and unhealthy interest in them. They themselves are equally pleased by both errors and hail a materialist or a magician with the same delight.

C.S. Lewis, *The Screwtape Letters* (originally 1942; this edition: Harper Collins, 1996)

CURSING IS A REAL PROBLEM EVEN IN THE TWIN CITIES.

Respond to. Curses: *"I am covered by the shed blood of Jesus. Your curse has no power and until you repent the very curse you attempted to put on me is now on you."*

²⁴ *"What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God."*

The demons knew who Jesus was! The real question today is this: *Do the demons know who you are in Jesus Christ?*



I urge you to discover your authority in Jesus over the demons, the confused, the angry, the hurt, the dying, the lies of life, and the sick in your life.

Always verbally speak the name of Jesus and his authority.

Do what Jesus did when he said: *"Be silent, and come out of him!"* ²⁶ *And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying out with a loud voice, came out of him.*

My answer is simple: 1. Jesus believed it. 2. I have experienced this reality many times.

²⁷ *And they were all amazed, so that they questioned among themselves, saying, "What is this? A new teaching with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him."* ²⁸ *And at once his fame spread everywhere throughout all the surrounding region of Galilee.*

Jesus only has one problem? That problem is you and me believing him and doing what he has commanded no matter the outcome.

YOUR ROLE AND MY ROLE IS TO WORK for the day when our culture looks at the church, at Christians and says:

They really do love one another.

They really take care of one another.

There is power in that church to heal and restore lives.

What they teach and say is the truth because signs, wonders and miracles are always present.

They will help you and me if we ask.

They truly care about us now and for eternity.

We have his authority to speak the truth, To cast out demons, To speak to this confused culture, To heal the sick and restore the broken, To bring hope and eternity to all who will listen.

YOU HAVE HIS AUTHORITY AND YOU HAVE HIS POWER.

•OUR JOB IS TO KNOW THIS TRUTH,

•TO SEEK DAILY TO STAND FOR JESUS

•TO SPEAK HIS TRUTH.

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