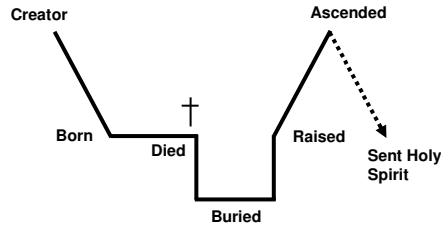


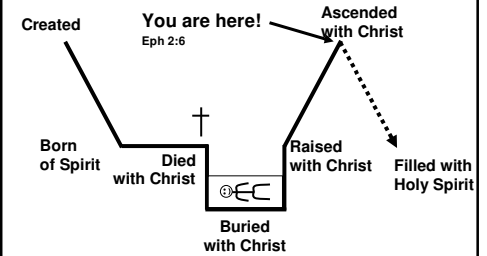
# What authority do we have in Christ?

Ephesians 1:17-23; 2:1-10

## Christ



## Christian



## Authority Structure of our world

Unbeliever	Believer
Jesus Christ Ephesians 1:22	Jesus Christ Ephesians 1:22
	Believers Ephesians 2:6
Satan Ephesians 2:2	Satan Ephesians 2:2
Spirits Luke 13:11	Spirits Luke 13:11
Human Beings Genesis 1:26	Human Beings Genesis 1:26
Animals Psalms 8:6-8	Animals Psalms 8:6-8

## Three givens

- We are in a spiritual battle Eph 6:12
- We have authority over God's enemy Lk 10:19
- We can all hear God's voice Jn 10:4

## Effective prayer is:

- ✓ 'discerning God's mind and enforcing it with God's authority'  
Stuart Lees
- ✓ 'not something we do to God but something we do with God'  
Bill Johnson

## Can we learn to:

- not ask God for things/people/situations but ask God about things/people/situations
- ask Him what His purpose is  
Then declare it into being as God leads
- ask Him what is coming against that  
Then bind it and prevent it as God leads

What is God's purpose?

Listen



We loose

through  
faith declaration

What is opposing God's purpose?

Listen



We bind

through  
submitted authority

## So...

- Instead of 'Lord, bless my friend'  
How about:  
'Lord, how do You want to bless my friend?  
What is Your purpose?'  
Listen, then loose with authority  
What is coming against Your purpose?'  
Listen, then bind with authority
- Pray within your means

### Why can it be difficult?

- We don't find change easy
- We are used to asking God to do what we want
- God's enemy hates us praying this way

### We take our (Jesus') authority over Satan's schemes

- ✓ We forbid / tie up the enemy's work Mat 12:29
- ✓ We do it, we don't ask God to do it e.g.  
'Stretch out your hand to divide the water' Ex 14:15, 16  
'Prophesy to these bones' Ezek 37:3,4  
Also Acts 4:29, 30

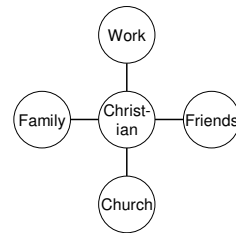
### Gate-keeping –

**exercising God's authority  
in the sphere(s)  
He has given me**

### Gate-keeper



### Examples of my spheres of influence



### My jurisdiction

– a definite sphere of authority which I have as a result of my position in my family, church, job or organisation, within which I can exercise the spiritual authority God has given me over God's enemy and his malign influence

### Authority

– the authority I have as an individual Christian (of any stage) which Jesus has given me to exercise, defensively or offensively, over God's enemy and his activity within any sphere of jurisdiction I may have.

### Taking authority for the day

- Take my stand in Christ
- Bind up my human thinking
- Submit myself to God (James 4:7)
  - Take authority over the enemy
  - Ask God to fill me with His Spirit

### Summary

- Have confidence in the spiritual authority that Jesus has given you. It's very real.
- Learn by exercising it!
- Use it to take ground from the enemy and extend God's kingdom around you