

The Authority of the Believer



Genesis 1:26-28

- **Review – The Principle of Authority – “God’s plan to protect our lives.”**
 - **Purpose: a discipline building principle – it will prepare us for the next assignment.**
 - **Objective: how to stay in position with God.**
 - **Goal: to actualize concepts for successful Christian living.**
1. **Lesson # 1 - What is the Authority of God? It is submitting and abiding under the Word of God, beyond my human reasoning and human interest.**
 - **Authority is the legal right to exercise power.**
 2. **Lesson # 2 – How to Be Set Under Authority**
 - **Set – orderly arranged; to be arranged in a position that I am immovable.**
 3. **Lesson # 3 – How to be set in authority.**
 - **I must not resist the ordinance.**

Understanding the Authority of the Believer

Genesis 1:26-28

- **There are four questions that I need to ask and answer.**
1. **When God said, “let them (man) have dominion over,” what at that point did man have authority over?**
 2. **When Adam sinned, what happened to man’s right to exercise that authority?**
 3. **By definition what is the authority of the New Testament believer?**
 - **It is the lawful right and ability that has been restored back to us to enforce obedience to the authority that we had.**

4. When man's power was restored through the ministry and operation of the Holy Spirit, what does the New Testament believer have authority over?

- **When Adam sinned, he faced emotional, natural, and spiritual failure.**

- 1. We have authority over spiritual failure (Phil. 4:11-13).**

- **We can do greater works (John 14:1-12).**

- **Greater – more; Works – things or deeds**

- **Greater works does not imply greater quality; rather, it means greater quantity of deeds, and of a greater variety of deeds.**

- 2. We have authority over natural failure (Matthew 16:13-18).**

- 3. We have authority over emotional failure (Is. 26:3).**