

SERMON OUTLINE

SERMON TITLE: Kingdom Authority

SERMON REFERENCE: Ephesians 1:15 – 2:6

LWF SERMON NUMBER: #1942

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1) INTRODUCTION

- a) Most Christians have no problem accepting the fact that Jesus Christ is King and that He has authority.
 - i) What we fail to understand is that He has given that kingdom authority to His subjects.
 - ii) With Him, we too may exercise kingdom authority.
- b) There is a difference between authority and power.
 - i) Power deals with brute force.
 - ii) Authority deals with right.
- c) Luke 10:19
 - i) The first “power” in this verse literally means “authority.”
 - (1) The word “authority” literally means the “official right.”
 - (a) Luke 20:2
 - (2) Authority is conferred; power is innate.
 - (a) We have whatever power we have (or lack of it) innately.
 - (b) Authority goes beyond power.
- d) As Christians, we are kings and priests.
 - i) Revelation 1:5-6
 - ii) God made us, as His children, to be kings and priests; though, many of us don’t live like it.
- e) Today’s message will show us three things about kingdom authority and how to exercise that kingdom authority, which has been given to us by our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

2) IT WAS GRACIOUSLY GIVEN (EPHESIANS 1:15-23)

- a) Kingdom authority was graciously given to Adam.
- b) Ephesians 1:15-23
 - i) In this passage, the Apostle Paul is writing to and praying for the Ephesian church.
 - ii) God’s people perish for a lack of knowledge.
 - (1) Hosea 4:6
 - iii) The word “hope” in verse 18 means “divine certainty” of His calling.
 - iv) In this passage, Paul is telling this Ephesian church that he is glad that they are saved and that his prayer is that God will open their eyes to the kingdom authority that is theirs (and ours) through salvation in the Lord Jesus Christ.
- c) When God created Adam and Eve and put them in the Garden of Eden, He gave to them kingdom authority.
 - i) He made them to rule on this Earth.
- d) Genesis 1:26
 - i) “Let Us make man.”
 - (1) This is plural because God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit are speaking together.
 - ii) We are made in the image of God.

- (1) God has dominion.
 - (2) God rules.
 - (3) God has authority.
 - iii) God made Adam to have dominion.
 - iv) The word “dominion” means “to tread upon.”
 - (1) All of this creation was to be beneath Adam’s feet.
 - v) Adam was to control and master the resources of this Earth.
 - e) Psalm 8:6
 - i) This was God’s original intent and plan for mankind.
 - ii) God made us to have dominion.
- 3) IT WAS LEGALLY LOST (EPHESIANS 2:1-3)
- a) Ephesians 2:1-3
 - i) The word “quickened” means “made alive.”
 - ii) God made us to have dominion, but the Apostle Paul states that mankind was dead in sin and following Satan.
 - b) Lucifer, the son of the morning, became Satan, the father of the night.
 - i) Isaiah 14:12
 - ii) He was a bright, shining angel; but he rebelled against God.
 - iii) He was filled with pride and arrogance, and he was cast out of Heaven.
 - (1) Luke 10:18
 - c) The devil, who fell from Heaven, has now turned his attention to man.
 - i) Satan, in the form of a serpent, came into the Garden of Eden.
 - (1) Genesis 3:1
 - (2) “Serpent” in this context literally means “shining one.”
 - ii) He tempted Adam and Eve to secure for themselves what he had tried to secure in Heaven.
 - (1) He tempted them to be as God, to be like God.
 - (2) What Satan failed to accomplish in Heaven, he tempted Adam and Eve to accomplish on this Earth.
 - d) Adam and Eve believed a lie, and they chose against Almighty God.
 - i) When they did, God was dethroned in Adam’s will and in his heart.
 - e) Authority derives from power.
 - i) Almighty God has the power.
 - ii) He gave the right to rule to Adam.
 - iii) Adam legally forfeited that right.
 - f) Adam believed the lies of Satan, and he dethroned God.
 - i) But when he dethroned God, he did not really enthrone himself.
 - (1) He enthroned Satan.
 - g) Adam became a slave to Satan.
 - i) Romans 6:16
 - (1) When Adam and Eve began to obey Satan, they yielded themselves to Satan.
 - (a) When we yield ourselves to someone, we become their slave.

- (2) The word “servant” in this passage is the Greek word for “bond slave.”
- h) This authority that was graciously given was then legally lost.
 - i) And Satan, who failed to achieve a throne in Heaven, now has a throne in the heart of man.
 - ii) The war that Satan lost in Heaven, he has now won on Earth.
 - (1) He has now enthroned himself over Adam.
 - iii) Adam forfeited his dominion and gave it over to Satan.
 - i) Luke 4:6
 - i) Jesus began His earthly ministry after His baptism by going into the wilderness.
 - (1) There, He had a spiritual battle with Satan.
 - ii) One of the things that Satan did was to endeavor to tempt Jesus to worship him.
 - (1) Satan wants the universe to worship him.
 - iii) In this verse, Satan is referring to the kingdoms of the world.
 - (1) When he said that they were delivered to him, Jesus did not refute that.
 - j) Ephesians 2:1-2
 - i) Adam and his children have been dethroned, are spiritually dead and no longer have legal authority.
 - k) 2 Corinthians 4:4
 - i) Satan is described as the god of this world.
 - (1) Adam was to have that authority, but he gave it to Satan.
 - l) Ephesians 6:12
 - i) Satan is described in this passage as the one with whom we do battle.
 - ii) The word “principalities” means “kingdoms.”
- 4) IT HAS BEEN RIGHTEOUSLY REGAINED (EPHESIANS 1:17-21)
- a) This is why Jesus came.
 - i) The authority that was legally lost has been righteously regained.
 - (1) If we do not understand that it has been **righteously** regained, then we miss the whole point of kingdom authority.
 - b) Ephesians 1:17-21
 - i) Ephesians 6:12
 - (1) Jesus is far above this principality.
 - c) Jesus Christ left Heaven and came to this Earth to gain back man’s lost estate.
 - d) Why doesn’t God just snatch the authority from Satan and give it back to Adam?
 - i) If God were to step in and snatch authority from Satan or kill the devil, then that would make a farce of divine justice.
 - ii) God doesn’t owe the devil anything, but He owes much to His own holiness, righteousness and to His own law.
 - (1) This is a universe that is run by law.

- e) God's plan is a man.
 - i) Dominion was given to a man.
 - ii) Dominion was lost by a man.
 - iii) It must be regained and recovered by a man in order for it to be legally recovered.
 - (1) This is why God became a man; this is why the incarnation.
 - (a) A member of Adam's race must be found to redeem us, but this member must be one upon whom Satan has no legal claim.
- f) A child of slaves belongs to the slave owner.
 - i) We became slaves of Satan.
 - (1) All of Adam's children are slaves to Satan.
 - ii) Ephesians 2:1-2
 - (1) We were children of disobedience.
 - iii) Our dominion must be regained.
 - (1) This is the reason why Jesus had to be the virgin-born Son of God.
 - (a) Jesus was not a son of Adam, but He was man.
- g) 1 Corinthians 15:21-22
 - i) All of the sons of Adam are dead.
 - ii) All of the sons of Christ are alive.
- h) Hebrews 2:14
 - i) We are the children referred to in this verse.
 - ii) Jesus became flesh and blood.
 - iii) "Power of death" in this passage means "authority of death."
 - iv) Dominion was given to flesh and blood, and it was lost by flesh and blood.
 - (1) Jesus became flesh and blood that He "through death might destroy him that had the power of death, that is the devil."
 - (2) Romans 6:23
- i) Jesus was not a fallen son of Adam and, therefore, was not a slave of Satan.
 - i) He was conceived by the Holy Spirit and virgin-born of a woman, which made Him a member of the human race.
 - ii) Had the Lord Jesus been born as we were born, then He would have been a son of Adam and inherited Adam's sin.
- j) Jesus was truly human but, at the same time, unquestionably divine.
 - i) When He walked this Earth, He was very God of very God and also very man of very man.
 - ii) But He did not defeat Satan as God, but as a man.
- k) When Jesus became a man, He overcame Satan as a righteous, sinless and holy man.
 - i) And He used resources to defeat Satan that were available to Adam in the Garden of Eden.
- l) Satan tried to tempt the Lord Jesus in the wilderness because just one sin on the part of Jesus would have brought the whole plan of redemption crashing down.
 - i) Luke 4:5-8

- (1) Adam lost his estate in a beautiful garden, but Jesus overcame Satan in a wilderness.
 - m) The same weapons that belonged to Adam in the Garden of Eden were the weapons that Jesus Christ used to defeat Satan:
 - i) The Spirit of God.
 - (1) Luke 4:1
 - (2) Jesus was filled with the Spirit, anointed with the Spirit at His baptism.
 - ii) The Word of God.
 - (1) Luke 4:8
 - (2) The authority of the Word.
 - n) Satan then hounded Jesus to Gethsemane and to bloody Calvary.
 - i) Luke 22:42
 - ii) John 19:30
 - o) Satan marshalled all of the forces of Hell to keep Jesus in that tomb and from being raised because Jesus' resurrection would mean that God the Father had accepted the payment, and Satan's legal power and right would be broken.
 - p) On the third day after the crucifixion, Jesus came out of the grave and was shown to be the Son of God with power.
 - i) Satan's power came crashing down.
 - q) Matthew 28:18-20
 - i) The Lord Jesus already had authority in Heaven, and He now has it on Earth.
 - (1) It has been righteously regained.
 - r) The Lord Jesus has the authority, and He has given it back to us, His followers.
 - i) Ephesians 1:21
 - ii) Luke 10:19
- 5) CONCLUSION
- a) You can take hold of kingdom authority today by giving your heart and life to Jesus Christ.
 - b) Do you know Jesus personally? If not, you can pray to Him today by asking Him to come into your life.
 - c) Call upon Jesus today. Repent (turn) from your sins, and turn to Jesus. Ask Him to forgive you of your sins, and acknowledge Him as Lord of your life.
 - i) Romans 3:23
 - ii) Romans 10:9-10
 - iii) Romans 10:13
 - iv) Acts 16:31
 - v) John 3:16