

## True Authority

by Vic Zarley

***Gen 1:26 God said, Let Us [Father, Son, and Holy Spirit] make mankind in Our image, after Our likeness, and let them have complete authority over the fish of the sea, the birds of the air, the [tame] beasts, and over all of the earth, and over everything that creeps upon the earth. [AMP]***

It was God's intention for man to have this authority over the earth and all the creatures upon it. Man's authority was lost in Eden at the time of the fall because Adam submitted to the serpent, Satan, in the garden, thereby relinquishing his authority to the enemy. We have supposedly regained authority, through Christ, when we are submitted to Him and use the authority of his name. Nevertheless, the literal authority over animals, whether tame or domesticated, mentioned in the above verse in Genesis, seems to no longer exist. It doesn't seem probable that we are to spend all of our days trying to get or, if it were possible to obtain, maintain control and authority over all the animals of the world. Whether animals are domesticated as pets or domesticated for food, they all have their own minds and their own wills. Despite our status as the most intelligent "rulers" of the world, we cannot have complete authority over God's other creations. How then, could the above verse be applied to the Christian life?

I had a dream once in which I was being chased by wild dogs. I was looking for a hiding place when suddenly I looked up and there, in the sky, was a flock of birds flying in the most beautiful pattern I'd ever seen. I seemed to relax, as I watched them fly. I did not worry about the dogs anymore.

For many weeks, previous to the dream, I had been dealing with an illness in my physical body that had quite preoccupied my mind. I was terribly worried about it. Then I was inspired to begin pouring over the truth about my relationship with God and finding some solace in that. In fact, I began to not worry about my health but, instead, began to put my full attention on the truth that God was showing me, in the inspiring books I was reading. I began to underline certain powerful phrases, which, later, I copied onto index cards and carried with me in my shirt pocket. Whenever I felt oppressed by either circumstances or my health, I pulled a card out of my pocket and began to read it, intensely.

***We easily become a ship without a rudder, shredded sails flailing in the winds, as we are tossed about in the wild sea of carnality in which we now reside.***

After doing that for a while and receiving much peace about my circumstances and a stronger faith in God, I had that dream which I related above. God used animals to let me know how I was doing with my work to obtain God's peace of mind. I was trying to hide from the wild dogs that wanted to tear me up, but my gaze was elevated to the skies, where, to my amazement and delight, birds were flying in wonderful patterns.

The dogs were the worries I was having about my physical condition. The birds were the thoughts of God, which I was willing to have, as my gaze was shifted upward by God. These are the animals we are to have complete authority over. They are our thoughts. We are not victims of our thoughts, but we create them as we reside in our free will. We are supposed to have complete authority over them, but often we don't.

***This is exercising authority at its best!***

Much, too willingly, we allow our thoughts to be controlled by other people's perception of what they believe is important "news." Or we are only too willing to sit down and be bombarded with inane and pointless thoughts of actors who have memorized a script written by someone, who may be out of God's loop.

We easily become a ship without a rudder, shredded sails flailing in the winds as we are tossed about in the wild sea of carnality in which we now reside. Is there no purpose? we cry. Is everything as it seems? Are we immobilized? Are we truly stuck in the muck and mire of this world?

In 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 10:5, the apostle Paul admonishes us to "take captive (have dominion over) every thought and make it obedient to Christ." This is exercising authority at its best.

In the above Genesis verse, God said we are to have complete authority over all the birds and animals of this world. I believe God would like to see us use our free will to take complete authority over our thoughts and allow them only to dwell on the truth as found in the Bible. We must dwell on the Good News (the Gospel), and let the



world and the thoughts it would like us to focus on, go. We are no longer subject to its limitations and its constant complaints. We can choose God or mammon.

Which is it going to be? Are we going to remain a stiff-necked people, we children of Israel?

Or are we going to allow Jesus, the Messiah, to deliver us from the evil He promised He could?



We want to encourage those of the Christian faith to be sure their lamps are filled with oil and pray that God will prepare their hearts, minds and souls for the trials and tribulations that must come to make us ready. The Church in the east and other persecuted areas of the globe is already walking in this fire, and we believe the western Church will also walk in this, in the very near future.

If this Pass-Around-Page has blessed you, please write us through our website above. Also, we invite you to read other Pass-Around-Pages on our site. Furthermore, feel free to print as many copies as you like of any of our Pass-Around-Pages and circulate them, or email them to others. It is our hope to be able to distribute God's messages to the body of Christ at minimal expense. That way, the funds of the Church can be better utilized, leaving more to help with the needs of individuals who are serving the Lord, as well as the poor and needy. This is how we believe the Church should operate.

If you find your thoughts wandering aimlessly, reel them in for a moment and take some time to give them and your life to Jesus. He wants to be your Lord and Savior. We are often too burdened by this world to be of any good purpose. Running in it should only be left up to the professional (ie: the One who overcame it). There is nothing about this world that should be tried at home. Be in the world, but not of it. Give Jesus your heart so that He can give you the kingdom of Heaven. Remember, He died for you, won't you live for Him!

Thank you, and God bless you.  
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*If you would like to have authority over the thoughts that ensnare you with temptation or bring fear and defeat into your life, crippling your effectiveness for Christ, or if you have never taken Christ for your personal Lord and Savior, please pray now: "Lord, I confess my failures and come boldly to Your throne of grace, knowing you are merciful. Please forgive my former rebelliousness to Your will and Your teachings. From this day, forward, I wish to be Your disciple. Please save me by Your precious blood, lead me into all truth and strengthen me to be obedient to Your word and faithful to Your love. In Jesus' name, amen."*



The Final Harvest Ministries seeks to prepare the Church of our Lord Jesus Christ for what we believe will be her last and greatest hour on this earth. At Final Harvest, we believe the Bride of Christ needs to be unified and purified, cleansed of all worldliness, selfishness, division, and a host of other ills which afflict and hinder her, especially in the west, so that the final harvest of souls can take place before the soon return of our Lord. To this end, we post the website: [www.TheFinalHarvest.org](http://www.TheFinalHarvest.org).

