

Days of Elijah pt8 – Divinely Delegated Authority

Dr. John Carmichael

[2Ki 1:1-18 NASB95] 1 Now Moab rebelled against Israel after the death of Ahab. 2 And Ahaziah fell through the lattice in his upper chamber which [was] in Samaria, and became ill. So he sent messengers and said to them, "Go, inquire of Baal-zebub, the god of Ekron, whether I will recover from this sickness." 3 But the angel of the LORD said to Elijah the Tishbite, "Arise, go up to meet the messengers of the king of Samaria and say to them, 'Is it because there is no God in Israel [that] you are going to inquire of Baal-zebub, the god of Ekron?' 4 "Now therefore thus says the LORD, 'You shall not come down from the bed where you have gone up, but you shall surely die.'" Then Elijah departed. 5 When the messengers returned to him he said to them, "Why have you returned?" 6 They said to him, "A man came up to meet us and said to us, 'Go, return to the king who sent you and say to him, "Thus says the LORD, 'Is it because there is no God in Israel [that] you are sending to inquire of Baal-zebub, the god of Ekron? Therefore you shall not come down from the bed where you have gone up, but shall surely die.'"" 7 He said to them, "What kind of man was he who came up to meet you and spoke these words to you?" 8 They answered him, "[He was] a hairy man with a leather girdle bound about his loins." And he said, "It is Elijah the Tishbite." 9 Then [the king] sent to him a captain of fifty with his fifty. And he went up to him, and behold, he was sitting on the top of the hill. And he said to him, "O man of God, the king says, 'Come down.'" 10 Elijah replied to the captain of fifty, "If I am a man of God, let fire come down from heaven and consume you and your fifty." Then fire came down from heaven and consumed him and his fifty. 11 So he again sent to him another captain of fifty with his fifty. And he said to him, "O man of God, thus says the king, 'Come down quickly.'" 12 Elijah replied to them, "If I am a man of God, let fire come down from heaven and consume you and your fifty." Then the fire of God came down from heaven and consumed him and his fifty. 13 So he again sent the captain of a third fifty with his fifty. When the third captain of fifty went up, he came and bowed down on his knees before Elijah, and begged him and said to him, "O man of God, please let my life and the lives of these fifty servants of yours be precious in your sight. 14 "Behold fire came down from heaven and consumed the first two captains of fifty with their fifties; but now let my life be precious in your sight." 15 The angel of the LORD said to Elijah, "Go down with him; do not be afraid of him." So he arose and went down with him to the king. 16 Then he said to him, "Thus says the LORD, 'Because you have sent messengers to inquire of Baal-zebub, the god of Ekron is it because there is no God in Israel to inquire of His word? therefore you shall not come down from the bed where you have gone up, but shall surely die.'" 17 So Ahaziah died according to the word of the LORD which Elijah had spoken. And because he had no son, Jehoram became king in his place in the second year of Jehoram the son of Jehoshaphat, king of Judah. 18 Now the rest of the acts of Ahaziah which he did, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Israel?

- The miraculous is a divine confrontation against the forces of darkness and all that includes.
- We are in a war. God has delegated authority to us as believers. (I have preached messages defining this subject.)
- Elijah shows us how to use the divine delegated authority to overcome the forces of darkness.

What can we learn about divinely delegated authority from Elijah?

Here are five things we can learn about divinely delegated authority.

I. Authority confronts the adversary.

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- a. V3
- b. [Luk 10:19 NASB95] 19 "Behold, I have given you authority to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing will injure you.
- c. Authority is given to confront the adversaries of God's divine destiny.

II. Authority operates by total devotion to Jesus.

- a. V3
- b. [Jas 4:7 NASB95] 7 Submit therefore to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.
- c. Your dominion over the devil is in direct proportion to your submission to God.

III. Authority operates by declaration of the Word of God.

- a. V4
- b. [Eph 6:11-13, 17 NASB95] 11 Put on the full armor of God, so that you will be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil. 12 For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual [forces] of wickedness in the heavenly [places.] 13 Therefore, take up the full armor of God, so that you will be able to resist in the evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. ... 17 And take THE HELMET OF SALVATION, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.
- c. The Word of God out of your mouth is the weapon that will defeat the enemy.

IV. Authority comes from knowing your identity in Christ.

- a. V10,12
- b. [Luk 4:3-4, 9-12 NASB95] 3 And the devil said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, tell this stone to become bread." 4 And Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'MAN SHALL NOT LIVE ON BREAD ALONE.'" ... 9 And he led Him to Jerusalem and had Him stand on the pinnacle of the temple, and said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down from here; 10 for it is written, 'HE WILL COMMAND HIS ANGELS CONCERNING YOU TO GUARD YOU,' 11 and, 'ON [their] HANDS THEY WILL BEAR YOU UP, SO THAT YOU WILL NOT STRIKE YOUR FOOT AGAINST A STONE.'" 12 And Jesus answered and said to him, "It is said, 'YOU SHALL NOT PUT THE LORD YOUR GOD TO THE TEST.'"
- c. Satan's attack will be against your identity.
- d. Learning who you are in Christ allows you to exercise authority over the adversary.

V. Authority is released with the right spirit.

- a. V13-15
- b. This man humbly recognized and honored Elijah as a man of God.
- c. [Luk 9:53-56 NASB95] 53 But they did not receive Him, because He was traveling toward Jerusalem. 54 When His disciples James and John saw [this,] they said, "Lord, do You want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them?" 55 But He turned and rebuked them, [and said, "You do not know what kind of spirit you are of; 56 for the Son of Man did not come to destroy men's lives, but to save them."]
- d. [Rom 12:14 NASB95] 14 Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse.
- e. Know what kind of spirit you are of.

- **God wants us to confront the darkness with divinely delegated authority that is based on submission to Him as being declared from God's Word, knowing who we are in Christ, and being of the right spirit.**