

## SERMON NOTES - In His Name - Authority

These notes are designed to be read along with the associated audio / video message

### Using these notes and this message

There are 3 ways to watch or listen to this message, and various ways to use it:

Access to the Message	Using the Message
The <b>full video message</b> (around 26 minutes) can be watched on our <a href="#">website</a> .	Play the Video OR Preach it Yourself → Small Group Discussion In larger settings. See guidance notes <a href="#">below</a> .
A <b>shorter version</b> (7-11 minutes) with small group discussion questions can also be found on our website.	In small groups. See Notes <a href="#">below</a> .
An <b>audio</b> podcast - on our <a href="#">app</a> , <a href="#">soundcloud</a> , or <a href="#">itunes</a>	Personal listening

Below you will find the following notes ...

[1 - A summary of this talk, and various ways and Ideas for how to use the themes](#)

[2 - How to Preach a Sunday Sermon](#)

[3 - How to lead a Small Group](#)

[4 - Small Group Bible Study Questions and Guidelines for this message](#)

[5 - Expanded Notes of the full Sermon](#)

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## 1 - A summary of this talk, and various ways and Ideas for how to use the themes

Due to the nature of the video messages, a sermon preached on video/TV generally contains much more information than should be presented when preaching "live".

Video messages also don't include as many personal stories and anecdotes as would be shared in a personal sermon.

For this reason, when preaching this message "live", it is advisable for you to pick one or two of the main themes, ideas, or points below, and focus on them, adding your own stories and experiences, and your own personality.

### THE BIG IDEA

There is a difference between Power (raw strength) and Authority (delegated ability to act on behalf of someone with power). It is very important for us as believers to know and use the authority He has given us.

### THE MAIN THEMES & SUB IDEAS EACH OF WHICH COULD BE DEVELOPED INTO A SERMON ON ITS OWN

You could use one or more of the following themes and ideas and craft a whole sermon out of any of these:

1. The difference between power and authority
  - Power is the ability to make something happen

- Authority is power delegated to someone else
2. Being in Jesus' name means having his authority (access, ability to act, protection, provision)
    - John 11:25 - Jesus said "I am the resurrection and the life"
    - Acts 3:6 - Peter healed in Jesus' name
    - Acts 4:7 - The religious leaders recognized the power of Jesus' name
  3. It's Jesus' power, not ours (we can't rely on our own ability)
    - Acts 3:12, 16 - Peter made clear the healing was by Jesus' power, not his own
  4. We need a "badge" of authority (the Holy Spirit is our badge)
    - 2 Corinthians 1:21-22 - God has sealed us with the Holy Spirit
    - Ephesians 1:13 - The Holy Spirit is God's seal and guarantee
  5. Jesus has authority over all things, including demons, sickness, death
    - Luke 10:17 - The disciples reported demons were subject to them in Jesus' name
    - Colossians 2:15 - Jesus disarmed powers and authorities through the cross
  6. Jesus gives his followers authority to act in his name
    - Luke 10:19 - Jesus gave the disciples authority over the enemy
    - Matthew 28:18-20 - Jesus gave his followers authority to make disciples
  7. We have authority over the devil's works, but not over other people's free will
    - Matthew 12:28-29 - Jesus bound the "strong man" (Satan) to plunder his house
    - God does not override people's ability to choose
  8. We need to use the authority Jesus has given us
    - Jesus has provided all we need, but we must step out in faith

## **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS BASED ON THIS TALK**

1. What's the difference between having power and having authority? Can you think of some examples to illustrate this difference?
2. Why is it important to recognize that the power and authority we have as believers comes from Jesus, not ourselves? How can we stay humble as we exercise His authority?
3. How have you experienced the Holy Spirit as a "badge" of authority in your life? What are some ways we can grow in our awareness of the Spirit's presence?
4. Share about a time when you exercised Jesus' authority over sickness, demonic oppression, or some other challenge. What was that experience like?
5. In what areas do you think Jesus wants you to use His authority more boldly or frequently? What's holding you back?
6. How can we strike the right balance of using spiritual authority while still respecting other people's free will?
7. What's one way you can step out this week in using the authority Jesus has given you through His name?

## 2 - How to Preach a Sunday Sermon

The SUNDAY sermon is normally not an in depth teaching time (this is usually done in other times and settings). Usually the Sunday Sermon achieves 3 main goals:

- It attracts non believers,
- It inspires believers and
- It educates everyone.

A sermon should not be too long (30 minutes is a good maximum time).

The mood and tone is important as people will often remember a FEELING more than information. People must sense and feel the love, joy and excitement of Jesus and the Christian life along with being motivated by GRACE, rather than legalism, guilt or religion.

### A 4-Point Checklist for Sermon Preparation ...

- 1) You** must be able to articulate in your own mind what the talk's one big message is. You should be able to state this in one sentence before you give your talk, and this would also work well as the introductory sentence of your talk..

**1 BIG  
IDEA**

It should be a compelling and motivating idea that is captivating and important, and it must have HELPED YOU in your life. If it is real for you, it will be real to those who hear you. As a general guideline, this idea should inspire people to faith, hope and action, and it is based on joy rather than on legalism or duty.

- 2) To** back up and support your big idea, you should have around 3 main points which are helpful and along the same theme. People should be able to follow your logical progression and see how the three points back up the main idea. You can have more than three points if you are making the same point from several different angles OR if you are using several different Bible verses to support the same idea.

**3**  
—  
**SUPPORTING**  
*Points*

- 3) For** each point you make, you should try to have one **story** or a **personal example** that illustrates what you are saying. They give a window to your sermon, allowing light to shine in, and bringing your points to life. Without illustrations, your sermon could feel like it's all "facts". Illustrations and stories engage people's imagination and emotions, and can show how the truths you are speaking of have impacted and affected you in a personal way.

**ILLUSTRATIONS  
&  
STORIES**

- 4) There** should be a practical way that people can apply what you have said – it should change people's lives, and you should conclude with this application. There is a **general** life application – "how will I live differently going forward?" – and there is also an **immediate** application – "what is God saying to me right NOW?" Encourage people to "do business with God" right then and there and to make decisions or commitments if necessary. This "life application" can be a good conclusion to your talk, OR the main idea that you started with can also be helpful as a concluding summary.

**PRACTICAL  
APPLICATION  
AND SUMMARY**

## 3 - How to lead a Small Group

Remember that the aim of the small group is to foster discussion and community, rather than for the leader or one individual to preach to everyone.

**1** - Often an **Icebreaker question** is a great way to start discussion. You could ask a question like those below, or use an “app” like <https://letsplunge.yesheis.com/> :

- What were the highs or lows of your week?
- What is your earliest memory?
- If you had to describe yourself as one animal, what would it be and why?
- What is your favourite type of holiday destination?

**2** - Next, **read the passage**. You can ask various people in the group to help by each reading a portion of the passage.

**3** - These are the **main questions** to ask to understand the passage:

- What is the main message of this talk / passage?  
Allow discussion and even diverging from the main topic if it is helpful.
- What did you find particularly helpful or challenging?
- What did you not fully understand?
- What can we do PRACTICALLY in response to this teaching?

**4** - Close by offering **prayer** for each person.

- Ask, “how can we pray for you / each other now?”
- Ask each person to pray or you, as leader, pray for each person’s need

**The blessing** and opportunity in Small Groups is the possibility for...

- Each person to contribute and/or ask questions,
- People to pray for each other and to ask for prayer,
- People to learn to use and grow in their gifts,
- Community, friendship and intimacy in relationships.

God Bless you in this very important ministry.

## 4 - Small Group Bible Study Questions and Guidelines for this message

### OUTLINE OF THE SHORT VIDEO MESSAGE

#### I. Defining Power vs. Authority

- Power is the raw ability to make something happen
- Authority is power delegated to someone else to act on their behalf

#### III. The Importance of Operating in Jesus' Authority

- Being in Jesus' authority is helpful and important for believers
- Gives examples of protection, provision, access, ability to act

#### IV. Authority to Heal in Jesus' Name

- Peter heals the paralyzed man in Jesus' name (Acts 3)
- Shows he operated using Jesus' delegated authority, not his own power

#### V. Religious Leaders Recognize Jesus' Authority

- Question the disciples on the source of their authority (Acts 4)
- Peter explains it is by the name and power of Jesus

#### VI. Story of Roman Centurion Recognizing Jesus' Authority

- Centurion likens Jesus' spiritual authority to his own military authority
- He sees Jesus' authority by faith, though there is no outward badge

#### VII. We Have Jesus' Authority Too

- If we have Jesus' name, we have his authority delegated to us
- The Holy Spirit is like our badge of Jesus' authority upon us
- Sealed and anointed with the Spirit as a guarantee of Jesus' authority

### SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS ON THIS SHORT VIDEO

1. When have you used / been given delegated authority to act on someone else's behalf?
2. What does it mean to you that the badge of authority you have been given is invisible, except by faith? How could our lives be different if we truly understand this?
3. How can we practically use His authority more in our lives?
4. Spend some time thanking God and praying specifically for each person's needs.

## 5 - Expanded Notes of the full Sermon

### In His Name - Authority

RECAP: What does it mean to pray or to do something in Jesus name?

There are some amazing statements about being “in His name”:

- Col. 3:17 “And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.”
- Mar 16:17-18 NKJV - "17 "And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will ... lay hands on the sick, and they will recover.""
- Jhn 14:14 NKJV — “If you ask anything in My name, I will do it.”

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Last week we looked at how being in His name means being in His Family. This week we will look at how being “in His name” means “in His **AUTHORITY**”

### What is Authority and how does it relate to Power?

POWER is the ability to influence others and control their behaviour through sheer strength or force that one possesses within oneself..

AUTHORITY is the legal right to give commands and make decisions, because someone with power has given it to you.

If one has this delegated authority, it gives one the powerful person’s:

- Protection
- Provision
- Access
- Ability to act on their behalf

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### Jesus’ “I AM” statements and His Authority

God used a name for Himself in the Old Testament - “I AM THAT I AM”

Jesus used the same (in Greek “*ego eimi*”)

Jhn 8:58 NKJV - "58 Jesus said to them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM (“*ego eimi*”)."

Jhn 11:25-26, 41-44 NKJV — "25 Jesus said to her, “I am (“*ego eimi*”) the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. 26 “And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die. Do you believe this?”

41 Then they took away the stone from the place where the dead man was lying. And Jesus lifted up His eyes and said, “Father, I thank You that You have heard Me. 42 “And I know that You always hear Me, but because of the people who are standing by I said this, that they may believe that You sent Me.” 43 Now when He had said these things, He cried with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come forth!” 44 And he who had died came out bound hand and foot with graveclothes, and his face was wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, “Loose him, and let him go.””

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### The Power & Virtue is never ours - It is always only His

Act 3:6-8 NKJV — "6 Then Peter said, “Silver and gold I do not have, but what I do have I give you: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk.” 7 And he took him by the right hand and lifted him up, and immediately his feet and ankle bones received strength. 8 So he, leaping up, stood and walked and entered the temple with them—walking, leaping, and praising God.”

Act 3:12 NKJV - "12 So when Peter saw it, he responded to the people: "Men of Israel, why do you marvel at this? Or why look so intently at us, as though by our own power or godliness we had made this man walk?"

Act 3:16 NKJV — "16 "And His name, through faith in His name, has made this man strong, whom you see and know. Yes, the faith which comes through Him has given him this perfect soundness in the presence of you all."

Act 4:7 NKJV — "7 And when they had set them in the midst, they asked, "By what power or by what name have you done this?"

Act 4:10 NKJV — "10 "let it be known to you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead, by Him this man stands here before you whole."

Mat 16:18, 19 NKJV — "18 "And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it. 19 "And I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will (*have been*) bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will (*have been*) loosed in heaven."

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## Authority requires a “badge” or “mark” of authorisation

Mat 8:5-10, 13 NKJV - "5 Now when Jesus had entered Capernaum, a centurion came to Him, pleading with Him, 6 saying, "Lord, my servant is lying at home paralyzed, dreadfully tormented." 7 And Jesus said to him, "I will come and heal him." 8 The centurion answered and said, "Lord, I am not worthy that You should come under my roof. But only speak a word, and my servant will be healed. 9 "For I also am a man under authority, having soldiers under me. And I say to this one, 'Go,' and he goes; and to another, 'Come,' and he comes; and to my servant, 'Do this,' and he does it." 10 When Jesus heard it, He marvelled, and said to those who followed, "Assuredly, I say to you, I have not found such great faith, not even in Israel! ... 13 Then Jesus said to the centurion, "Go your way; and as you have believed, so let it be done for you." And his servant was healed that same hour."

The Centurion was a representative of Rome, and because of his armour (badge), he could enforce Rome's will in a foreign land, and all of Rome's wealth and power were behind his words and actions.

If he tried to do these things in Israel without his armour on, he would have been unable to do anything.

Jesus' authority was Spiritual (not physical), and his “mark” of authority could only be seen by faith. Isa 53:2 NKJV - "2 For He shall grow up before Him as a tender plant, And as a root out of dry ground. He has no form or comeliness; And when we see Him, There is no beauty that we should desire Him."

The Centurion recognised the spiritual “badge” of authority on Jesus. Jesus called this “faith”, and He said he had not seen anyone with such great faith in all of Israel.

The mark of authority that we have is the “seal of the Holy Spirit”

2Co 1:21-22 NKJV - " 21 Now He who establishes us with you in Christ and has anointed us is God, 22 who also has sealed us and given us the Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee."

Eph 1:13-14 NKJV - "13 In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, 14 who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory."

We must have faith to see and to use His authority.

We get this authority simply by being His child. Those who don't know Him do not have this badge or authority:

Act 19:13-16 NKJV - "13 Then some of the itinerant Jewish exorcists took it upon themselves to call the name of the Lord Jesus over those who had evil spirits, saying, "We exorcise you by the Jesus whom Paul preaches." 14 Also there were seven sons of Sceva, a Jewish chief priest, who did so. 15 And the evil spirit answered and said, "Jesus I know, and Paul I know; but who are you?" 16 Then the man in whom the evil spirit was leaped on them, overpowered them, and prevailed against them, so that they fled out of that house naked and wounded."

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## What Jesus has achieved for us

He has won the authority and He has given it to us:

Luk 10:17-19 NKJV - "17 Then the seventy returned with joy, saying, "Lord, even the demons are subject to us in Your name." 18 And He said to them, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. 19 "Behold, I give you the authority to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you."

Col 2:15 NKJV - "15 Having **disarmed** principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it."

Mat 28:18,19, 20 NKJV - "18 And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. 19 "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 "teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen."

1Jo 3:8 NKJV - "For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil."

Jhn 12:31 NKJV - "31 "Now is the judgement of this world; now the ruler of this world will be cast out." (Also Jhn 14:30 Jhn 16:11)

Mat 12:28-29 NKJV - "28 "But if I cast out demons by the Spirit of God, surely the kingdom of God has come upon you. 29 "Or how can one enter a strong man's house and plunder his goods, unless he first binds the strong man? And then he will plunder his house."

Balaam could not curse Israel because the "shout of a King" was among them:

Num 23:21 NKJV - "21 "He has not observed iniquity in Jacob, Nor has He seen wickedness in Israel. The LORD his God is with him, And the shout of a King is among them."

You have His name upon you:

Num 6:23-27 NKJV - "23 "Speak to Aaron and his sons, saying, 'This is the way you shall bless the children of Israel. Say to them: 24 "The LORD bless you and keep you; 25 The LORD make His face shine upon you, And be gracious to you; 26 The LORD lift up His countenance upon you, And give you peace." ' 27 "So they shall put My name on the children of Israel, and I will bless them."

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## The Authority He gives us is NOT over people but we must use it over other obstacles

The Authority He gives us is over spiritual forces and, to a certain degree, over things and natural forces around us, but NOT over people

We can and must use His authority over circumstances, spirits, and obstacles.:

Mar 11:22-24 NKJV - "22 So Jesus answered and said to them, "Have faith in God. 23 "For assuredly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, 'Be removed and be cast into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that those things he says will be done, he will have whatever he says. 24 "Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them."