

HOUSE OF PRAISE INTERNATIONAL CHURCH

*Ministering the truth of God's Word
in the power of the Holy Spirit!*

Spiritual Growth Series

Knowing Who You Are In Christ

Pastor Harlan Stilwell, Sr.

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Blood Covenant With God
Understanding The Plan of Redemption
Reality of Righteousness
...and much, much more.

HOUSE OF PRAISE INTERNATIONAL CHURCH

Pastor Harlan Stilwell, Sr.

Our Vision

Our Goal and desire is the same as that of our Lord Jesus Christ, to fulfill God's end-time calling to enlarge the Kingdom of God, by reaching the multitudes with the gospel of Christ for all levels of our society. We are bringing glory and honor to the Father of our Lord Jesus by teaching and preparing God's people for works of service through the Word and Anointed Worship, through the manifested presence and revelation power of the Holy Spirit.

HOUSE OF PRAISE INTERNATIONAL CHURCH

Booklets written by Pastor Harlan Stilwell, Sr.

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*Receiving the Wisdom, Understanding,
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By Allowing God To Work In Us, We Cannot Fail!

God has supplied us with everything necessary to complete the work He has commissioned us to do. *Philippians 2:13* says, "For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure." Begin to recognize the Holy Spirit dwelling in you, and work together with Him to fulfill your calling.

Remember, you're not alone. Your inner man will be strengthened with might by the Spirit. With His help, you can do the works of Jesus, and even greater works.



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KNOWING WHO YOU ARE IN CHRIST

Jesus was empowered by the Holy Spirit dwelling within Him. When He spoke, power was released. He said, "...The words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself: but the Father that dwelleth in me, he doeth the works" (*John 14:10*).

In *John 14:12*, Jesus said, "...He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also." The same works the Father accomplished through Jesus can be done by the believer. It is the power of the Holy Spirit that enables him. The Holy Spirit is the ability of God dwelling inside a man. When the believer is filled with the Holy Ghost, he is Spirit-filled. He is full of the presence of God. Feelings do not determine the fact of His presence. He has been sent to abide forever (*John 14:16*).

The Holy Spirit Empowers You To Carry Out God's Work In The Earth

"For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them"
(*Eph. 2:10*)

The believer is fully equipped to do the works of God.

In *John 14:12*, Jesus also said the believer shall do "greater works" than He did. What are the "greater works" that Jesus was referring to?

In Jesus earthly ministry, he could not get a man born again because Calvary had not taken place. His mission was to set the groundwork so that we could fulfill the Great Commission. He sent the Holy Spirit to enable us to do that.

The day Jesus declared, "It is finished," the Abrahamic covenant was fulfilled. The veil that separated man from the holy of holies was torn from the top down.

No longer would the Holy Spirit dwell in a man-made temple. He would dwell in man and empower him to do the works that God wanted done. The believer is a moving temple of the living God (*1 Cor. 6:19*).

-created human spirit expressing himself to God, thereby releasing spiritual power from the inside. A believer who speaks in tongues, speaks unto God and edifies himself (*1 Corinthians 14:2,4*). Praying in tongues is the open door to mental and spiritual success.

We receive the Holy Spirit for the same reasons Jesus did. In Luke *4:18-19*, Jesus said, "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, to preach the acceptable year of the Lord.

But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you..."
(Acts 1:8)

Jesus told us to go into all the world, lay hands on the sick, cast out devils and speak with new tongues (*Mark 16:15-18*). He has commissioned us, the Church to do these things and, with the indwelling Holy Spirit, the very ability of God is in us to do the work.

So take your place, recognize and receive what you can do with the help of the indwelling Holy Spirit. You have the strength of God ready to work in your life.

God's Purpose For Filling You With The Holy Spirit

"For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure."
(Phil. 2:13)

When a born-again man receives the infilling of the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of God is diffused into his spirit, without either losing their identity. *Acts 2:4* says, "And they were all filled (diffused throughout their souls) with the Holy Spirit..." (Ampl.)

The Holy Spirit has been sent that God might manifest Himself in the earth. The Holy Spirit undergirds, strengthens, counsels and gives man the ability to fulfill his calling. *Ephesians 3:16* says, "That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man."

BLOOD COVENANT WITH GOD

God's covenant with Abram opened the door for Jesus to come into the earth...it paved the way for the ULTIMATE covenant that would change everything.

An understanding of covenant will give you the ability to receive what belongs to you as a believer in Christ.

"And when Abram was ninety years old and nine, the Lord appeared to Abram, and said unto him, I am the Almighty God; walk before me, and be thou perfect. And I will make my covenant between me and thee, and will multiply thee exceedingly. And Abram fell on his face: and God talked with him, saying, as for me, behold, my covenant is with thee..."

Genesis 17:1-4

In *Genesis 17*, God introduced Himself to Abraham as the "Almighty God." The Hebrew translation of this is El Shaddai, the supreme provider of all things.

At that time, no man on earth knew God. Adam had committed high treason and gave his authority to Satan. As a result, God was on the outside looking in. He had no legal grounds to deal with any human being on earth because they belonged to Satan.

God needed a contract or agreement with a man by which He could legally bring forth the redemption plan that could set man free. God personally made a covenant with Abram. If Abram would follow the covenant, as outlined by God, it would be counted unto him as righteousness.

In *Genesis 17:4*, the word covenant means "a blood flow" or "incision in the flesh." It is entered into because of love and devotion. A covenant makes available the power, strength and possessions of each party involved. It links the weaknesses of one to the strengths of the other.

In every time and culture a blood covenant is the strongest agreement that can be entered into. It carries great spiritual significance.

Even today, in a court of law, covenant is the strongest word that can be expressed in the English language to describe an agreement or contract.

Galatians 3:14 says, "That the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ; that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith." *Verse 16* says the promises were made to Abraham and his seed, singular, which is Christ. When Abraham accepted the contract, God was given a way to bring Jesus into the earth, legally. Jesus would be the fulfillment of the Abrahamic covenant. By Abraham's willingness to sacrifice his son, God was able to give His own Son.

Jesus was all man and all God. He was faced with the same temptations as man. He was the exact image of Adam before the fall. He walked under the Abrahamic covenant with God. He used the word of the written covenant to overcome Satan's temptations. In *Matthew 4:4*, Jesus said, "It is written, man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God."

Jesus walked perfect and upright under the covenant. God and Jesus were working together.

How The New Covenant In Jesus Blood Changes Everything For You

*"And in like manner, He took the cup after supper, saying, this cup is the New Testament or covenant [ratified] in My blood, which is shed (poured out) for you."
Luke 22:20 (Ampl.)*

At the last supper, Jesus took His place in the Messiah's chair. He picked up the fourth cup which had previously been left upside down for the Messiah. He told the disciples that this was the cup of the new covenant to be ratified with His blood. He took the center piece of bread, broke it and told them to eat it. He explained to them that this was His body, broken for them. Jesus was foretelling His sufferings. At the cross, He proclaimed "it is finished."

The Abrahamic covenant had been fulfilled. Jesus became the final sacrifice, lifted on the altar of the cross, by the high priest. The covenant was ratified by His blood.

He was in the depths of the earth for three days and nights suffering the penalty

In *John 14:16*, Jesus said, "And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter that he may abide with you for ever." Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to the Church. The Holy Spirit came into His earthly ministry for the benefit of the Body of Christ.

God Has Caused His Spirit To Dwell In You

*"...Ye are the temple (residing place) of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people"
(2 Corinthians 6:16)*

The believer has become one with God, God working in him to do His good pleasure. *Ephesians 3:20* says, "Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us." That power comes with the indwelling Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit did not come to dominate but to comfort, teach, train and counsel the believer. *John 16:13* says, "Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will show you things to come."

The Holy Spirit honors the Word of God and causes it to come to pass. *Jeremiah 1:12* says, God watches over His Word to perform it. The Word will change any situation when it is given absolute authority. The Word is all sovereign and will determine one's success when it is put first place. The Spirit of God will then bring that Word that was acted on in faith to pass.

Spending time in the Word also causes one to become God-inside-minded.

Jesus said in *Matt. 8:13*, "...as thou hast believed so be it done unto thee." Feelings do not determine what is received from God. Receiving the Holy Spirit is based on the Word of God, not feelings. Jesus said that if you ask, you shall receive (*Luke 11:11-13*).

When a believer receives the infilling of the Holy Spirit, his spirit man has a desire to express himself. *Acts 2:4* says, "And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance."

When a person is born again, they are born with all the grace and ability of Jesus. Jesus' earthly ministry is the picture of a believer in Christ using the Word and depending on the leadership of the Holy Spirit. He knew he was in right-standing with the Father; therefore, He would not give place to the devil.

By having a righteousness-consciousness, it is just as ridiculous, in the thinking of a believer in Christ, for Satan to put sickness on him as it would have been for Satan to put sickness on Jesus.

As a believer in Christ, you are in right-standing with God, free from sin and the condemnation of unworthiness. When the believer in Christ takes his rightful place in Christ, Satan has no control over any area of his life. So make a decision to see yourself as God sees you **RIGHTEOUS!**

REALITY OF THE INDWELLING HOLY SPIRIT

The Holy Spirit dwelling in the believer empowers him to live in victory.

*“And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter,
that he may abide with you for ever.”
John 14:16*

“Nevertheless I tell you the truth; it is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you: but if I depart, I will send him unto you” (*John 16:7*).

We see in the bible that the Holy Spirit is the strength or power of God. Everywhere the Word is active the Spirit of God is at work. For instance, *Genesis 1:2* says, “. . .And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.”

The Spirit of God also came upon men of old and moved mightily in their behalf. But now as believers, we can have the Holy Spirit living in us and empowering us.

Jesus said it was more profitable for His disciples that He go away, so that He could send the Holy Spirit (*John 16:7*). The Holy Spirit is our Comforter and Teacher.

of Adam's transgression. When the claims of justice were satisfied, He was raised from the dead. Sin had been paid for.

Jesus took from Satan all the authority he had over the human race. Jesus was born from death to life.

We are born again covenant believers. We are redeemed from the curse of the law.

The new covenant has no curse. It is a better covenant, established on better promises. The new covenant is between God the Father and Jesus, a resurrected, untouchable man it cannot be broken!

Galatians 3:29 says, if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's seed and heir according to the promise. That means because of the covenant, everything God has belongs to you as a believer. You can stand on the covenant and exercise what has been promised to you as a believer.

UNDERSTANDING THE PLAN OF REDEMPTION

Your faith will be strengthened according to your revelation of the plan of redemption. *Romans 16:25-26* tells us God's plan of redemption is unveiled through the word of God. “Now to Him who is able to strengthen you in the faith which is in accordance with my Gospel and the preaching of (concerning) Jesus Christ (the Messiah), according to the revelation (the unveiling) of the mystery of the plan of redemption which was kept in silence and secret for long ages”. (Ampl.)

The believer in Christ is faced with the responsibility of living out from under the curse in a dying world. An understanding of the plan of redemption is the key, so let's look at what happened, according to God's word.

First Adam's high treason resulted in spiritual death for all mankind. He was brought under the dominion of Satan.

That's why there had to be an incarnation. A man had to come into the world that was not under the lordship of Satan. It had to be a birth without the corruption of a man. There had to be a man who could take back the dominion that Adam lost.

God spoke and outlined the plan of redemption after Satan beguiled Eve, and Adam committed high treason.

The plan has now been revealed through the Word (*Rom. 16:26*). The Bible was written to show that plan and the authority believers now have in Christ. That's why Satan fights the Word.

Jesus was the last Adam, an eternal man. He made Himself obedient to death, putting Himself in the hands of Satan, His enemy.

Jesus went to hell to pay the price for 'Adam's high treason. When God raised Him from the dead, He became untouchable by death. He became the firstborn of many brethren (*Rom: 8:29*).

What the believer in Christ receives from God depends on the amount of knowledge he has concerning the plan of redemption. That's because your faith will operate on the level of your knowledge of the plan of redemption.

II Peter 1:2-4 says, the believer in Christ can escape the corruption that is in the world, partake of the divine nature of God, and have grace and peace multiplied unto himself, because God's divine power has already provided everything that pertains to life and godliness.

The Believer In Christ Has Been Redeemed

Colossians 1:12-14 says, "Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet (able) to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light: Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son: In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins." The believer in Christ is holy and unblameable in the sight of God (*Colossians 1:22*).

The Body of Christ is as free from the dominion of Satan as Jesus was when God raised Him from the dead. Satan no longer has authority over the believer in Christ who has a working revelation of redemption.

As believers in Christ, we have been taken out of the dominion of Satan and placed in the kingdom of God's dear Son. We are as free from Satan as Adam was

You see God deals with individuals according to His Word. You are what God says you are in His Word. When you agree with Him by faith, it's yours.

Jesus received righteousness by faith. Likewise, the believer in Christ receives righteousness by receiving Him as Lord in faith. *Philippians 3:9* says, "And be found in him, NOT having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith." Righteousness is received at salvation. If you can believe you're saved, then you can believe you're the righteousness of God because both are received by faith.

God sees by faith. In God's eyes, the believer in Christ is no longer condemned.

When he raised Jesus from the dead and broke the bondage of Satan over mankind, the job was completed. The believer in Christ was crucified and resurrected from the dead with Jesus, now seated in heavenly places with Him.

Believers in Christ can now look at Jesus and see themselves, one with Him, blood-bought children of God, with all the privileges of a king.

God Sees You In Right-standing With Jesus

"THEREFORE if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away: behold, all things are become new. And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ...." (*2 Cor. 5:17-18*).

Developing a righteousness-consciousness is renewing the mind to the redemptive work of Christ. In doing so, one will begin to think of WHO THEY ARE IN CHRIST, instead of what they were.

I Cor. 15:34 says, "Awake to righteousness and sin not...." The believer in Christ will reach a place where the mind is renewed to righteousness and a transformation takes place. No longer will righteousness be a question but a reality.

By meditating on the activities of the FLESH, a sin-consciousness will grow. Likewise, by meditating on the things of the spirit, a righteousness-consciousness will develop.

But in order to take advantage of what that really means the believer in Christ must develop a righteousness consciousness. Developing a consciousness of right-standing with the Father is the key to living in the fullness of God.

We must change our thinking about ourselves.

“And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind...” (*Romans 12:2*).

If you have made Jesus Lord of your life, it's time to start seeing yourself in a whole new light. Jesus is in right-standing with God, and those who are in Him have the same standing. *Romans 3:25* says, that God made Jesus to be “a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past...” if you are in Christ, your sins are past.

Jesus is the advocate of the Church. The word advocate means “lawyer or counselor”. Through Jesus, we have legal representation in heaven. The believer in Christ can go to Jesus, confess and repent of sin, and he will be cleansed from all unrighteousness (*1 John 1:9*).

1 Corinthians 1:30 says, “But of him are ye in Christ Jesus who of God is made unto us wisdom and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption.”

Stand up to everything Satan tries to bring on you. He has no legal rights over the believer in Christ unless granted by the believer in Christ himself. *Colossians 1:13* says, “Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son.” You are no longer in Satan's domain of darkness.

When you accept Jesus' sacrifice for your sin, you become the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus. Righteousness is the ability to stand in the presence of God without a sense of guilt, fear, or condemnation knowing you belong there because of Jesus. Righteousness is not conduct. Righteousness produces good conduct.

Abraham did not receive the promise because of his works or conduct. His faith in God caused him to receive the promise. Then he walked circumspectly and upright before God.

before he sinned. As we submit ourselves to God and resist the devil, he will flee. He has NO right over the believer in Christ. He recognizes the authority we have and the ability we possess to enforce it.

The moment the believer in Christ takes his place as a child of God, he can begin to partake of his inheritance. *Philippians 2:5-6* says, “Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God.” It is not robbery to be called a joint heir with Jesus. *Ephesians 2:1,6* says, “and you [He made alive], when you were dead (slain) by [your] trespasses and sins...And He raised us up together with Him and made us sit down together [giving us joint seating with Him] in the heavenly sphere [by virtue of our being] in Christ Jesus...”. (Ampl). The believer in Christ is not only a joint heir with Christ Jesus, but he is an heir of God entitled to the blessings of his inheritance.

BUT, the believer in Christ can only believe for the parts of the plan of redemption that he knows about. If all he knows about is salvation, that's all he can receive. But when he learns about the other benefits of redemption such as healing, he can begin to use his faith for those as well.

Now, it is your responsibility to walk in the light of the redemptive work that was wrought for you in Christ. The Apostle Paul said, “Be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God” (*Rom. 12:2*). It is time to renew your mind and take control of your body, making it live in relation to what has already happened to your heart. Let redemption become a reality in YOUR life. The barriers to you being reconciled to and walking with God have been removed by Christ Himself.

SUBSTITUTION AND IDENTIFICATION

There are two families in the earth. As believers in Christ, we no longer identify with Satan and his family, but we now identify with Jesus and the family of God.

The pivot point around which Christianity revolves is substitution and identification. Once the believer in Christ identifies with the family of God, he then learns about his authority.

Jesus was your substitute. You were crucified with Him at Calvary and resurrected with Him. *Galatians 2:20* says, "I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me".

II Corinthians 5:21 states that Jesus became sin so we could become righteous. He became what we were so we could become what He is now.

The greatness of God's power to us who believe is the same power that was used in Christ when He raised Him from the dead (*Eph. 1-2*). Jesus was raised a new creature. He was the first of a new race of men that became the family of God. He was manifested in the flesh and justified in the spirit. The Spirit of God quickened Jesus' dead spirit and made it alive after the claims of justice were satisfied.

Jesus then became the firstborn of many brethren. He was declared to be the Son of God when He was raised from the dead. *Acts 13:33* says, "...thou art my Son, this day have I begotten thee." And *Rom. 1:4* (Ampl) says, "And [as to His divine nature] according to the Spirit of holiness was openly designated the Son of God...by His resurrection from the dead, even Jesus Christ our Lord..."

A born again man defeated Satan. The believer in Christ is the very image of that man. The same power used to raise Jesus from the dead, raised the believer from death, trespasses and sin. Judgment was passed on Satan. God could re-create a new race of mankind in HIS likeness.

As new creations in Christ, we are no longer children of disobedience as stated in *Eph. 2*. We have made Jesus our Lord. We have walked out of the family of Satan and into the family of God.

God No Longer Sees You Under The Curse, Unworthy, Sick Or Poor

Galatians 3:13 says, "Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree." Jesus hung on a tree in our place.

and ever: a scepter of righteousness is the scepter of thy kingdom." When Jesus was raised from the dead, God turned to Him and gave Him the scepter of righteousness. A SCEPTRE REPRESENTS AN EMBLEM OF AUTHORITY AND ROYALTY.

Now Jesus has given us that same right-standing in the family of God.

As A Believer, You Are The Righteousness Of God In Christ

"For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him."

(2 Cor. 5:21)

The believer has received the free gift of righteousness. Righteousness is not something that is obtained by works. It is a gift given at the moment the believer receives Jesus as his Lord (*Romans 5:17*).

We have been given the Name of Jesus, which assures us entrance into the presence of God. God's ear is attentive to the prayer of the righteous man. James 5:16 says "the effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much."

God has already accepted the sacrifice of Jesus as a substitution for your sin. He has also demanded that you accept that sacrifice for your sin. This sacrifice accepted by man puts God and man back in right relationship. Jesus was made to be sin with man's sinfulness in order for man to be made righteous with His righteousness.

So begin to enjoy it. Jesus went to the cross and purchased your right to wear the breastplate of righteousness. You are no longer unworthy. You have the ability to stand in the presence of the Father without a sense of guilt, condemnation or inferiority.

Every child of God has exactly the same standing with the Father. You have Jesus' standing with the Father you are in right-standing with God!

DEVELOPING A RIGHTEOUSNESS CONSCIOUSNESS

The righteousness of God is for all believers in Christ. There is no difference. The believer in Christ has been made the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus.

how to use that name. In addition, the name of Jesus can do anything He can do because He is backing it.

The name of Jesus will work if you stand on it and use it. The Holy Spirit will see to it that the Word you speak in faith, in that name, comes to pass.

It is used by the believer in Christ as if Jesus spoke Himself. We have been delegated authority over everything in His name. Learn to exercise dominion with that name!

REALITY OF RIGHTEOUSNESS

By accepting Jesus as his Lord, the believer no longer identifies with sin but with righteousness. The born again believer has been made the righteousness of God. This fact needs to become a reality in your life. When you let righteousness become a reality to you, you can live in victory here on earth.

*“Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness:
for they shall be filled.”
Matthew 5:6*

Righteousness is the greatest blessing of being born again. A man who receives the new birth by faith is no longer a sinner saved by grace. He was a sinner but through Jesus' sacrifice at Calvary he has been made the righteousness of God. By accepting Jesus as his Lord, he no longer identifies with sin but with righteousness.

The Greek definition of righteousness literally means “being in right-standing.” We are in right standing with God because of what Jesus did. *Isa. 54:17* says, “...their righteousness is of me, saith the Lord.” The righteousness of the believer is of God and not of himself. Jesus paid the price at Calvary in order that we might be in right-standing with God.

God's work in Jesus was greater than Satan's work in Adam. The believer receives righteousness because of the price Jesus paid. In the eyes of God, what Jesus did is more powerful than the high treason Adam committed in the garden of Eden.

Hebrews 1:8 says, “But unto the Son he saith, Thy throne, O God, is for ever

Since God sees us redeemed from the curse, likewise we too should see ourselves this way. We have been delivered from the power of darkness and the authority of Satan.

Since God sees us redeemed from the curse, likewise we too should see ourselves this way. We have been delivered from the power of darkness and the authority of Satan.

We have been translated into the kingdom of God's dear Son (*Col. 1:13-15*). We should now identify with the family of God IN our actions and speech.

If you are talking fear, doubt and unbelief, you are identifying with Adam. Identify with Jesus instead. Get your mind in line with the Word of God. Start talking it, acting it and living it.

- THE SUBSTITUTION BECOMES THE BELIEVER'S IDENTIFICATION. JESUS DIED THAT'S THE SUBSTITUTION, SO I COULD BE ALIVE, THAT'S THE IDENTIFICATION.
- JESUS DEFEATED SATAN; THE BELIEVER IDENTIFIES WITH THE VICTORY. HE WENT TO HELL AS THE SUBSTITUTE, IN ORDER TO TAKE THE BELIEVER TO HEAVEN.
- HE WAS CAST OUT OF THE PRESENCE OF GOD FOR BELIEVERS TO BE WELCOME THERE.

Allow this identification to become a reality in your life.

Romans 5:17 says, “for if by one man's offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ.”

AUTHORITY OF THE NAME OF JESUS

The name of Jesus is above all other names; and Father God has given us the right to use it.

“And God hath put all things under His feet, and gave him to be the head over all things...” (*Eph. 1:22*).

God has invested power in the Name of Jesus. You are about to discover how that happened and what it means to the believer in Christ today.

The crippled man in *Acts 3* was made whole because of the Name of Jesus. Peter said in verse 16 that through faith in the name of Jesus this man was made strong. Peter and John were just doing what Jesus had commissioned them to do before being received up into heaven (*Mark 16:17*).

The authority of the name of Jesus was even acknowledged by the Sanhedrin. They would not deny that a notable miracle had been done. They commanded Peter and John not to speak in that name:

Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John and...beholding the man that was healed standing with them, they could say nothing against it. But when they had commanded them to go aside out of the council, they conferred among themselves, saying, what shall we do to these men? For that indeed a notable miracle hath been done by them is manifest to all them that dwell in Jerusalem; and we cannot deny it. But that it spread no further among the people, let us straitly threaten them that they speak henceforth to no man in this name. And they called them, and commanded them not to speak AT ALL nor teach in the name of Jesus (*Acts 4:13-18*).

There are three ways in which Jesus obtained the authority and power in His name:

1. First, *Hebrews 1:4* says, that He inherited His name from God. To measure the magnitude of this inheritance, the power of God would have to be measured. But God is infinite and His power is immeasurable. The Bible says there is no other name under heaven given among men whereby we must be saved (*Acts 4:12*). We have the guarantee of a better covenant because His name is in it, inherited from God. *Hebrews 7:22*, Jesus is called the surety of the new covenant. His name is backing it.
2. The second way Jesus obtained authority is that His name was conferred upon Him. After Jesus was raised from the dead, He sat down at the right hand of the Father. God spoke to Jesus, a resurrected, reborn man, and called Him God (*Hebrews 1:8*). God conferred upon Jesus all of the power in this world or any other world. *Philippians 2:9-11* says, "Wherefore God

also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things (beings) in heaven, and things (beings) in earth, and things (beings) under the earth; and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."

3. The third and most exciting way Jesus obtained authority in His name was by conquest. In *Revelation 1:18* Jesus said, "I am he that liveth, and was dead; and behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death." Jesus defeated Satan in his own territory (*Col. 2:15, Hebrews 2:14*).

After Jesus paid the price for sin, He exercised His authority and the power of God began to work. The Spirit of God, who raised Him from the dead, began to strip Satan of all his authority. All the defenses and power Satan had could not match the power of God. Jesus then went to Abraham's bosom and preached to the saints there. Satan was no longer in control.

You Have Power, As A Believer In Christ, In The Name Of Jesus

"...According to the working of his mighty power, which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places, far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come"
(*Eph. 1:19-21*)

What is Jesus doing with all this power? He has given full power of attorney to use His name, full authority in His name to His body. It belongs to the Body of Christ. Every name that has been named has been put under Jesus' feet and so it is under the feet of the body of Christ.

The name of Jesus is in the earth and it carries authority in three realms (worlds). *Ephesians 3:15* says, "of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named."

John 16:23 says, "...Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name, he will give it you." We have been given the name of Jesus and the Word of God to know