

Hagin, Kenneth E.The Believer's Authority

4. The Prayers of Paul

This opening chapter argues that Ephesians reveals the believer's authority more than any other epistle. The author points to Paul's two Spirit-given prayers (Eph. 1 and 3) and tells how praying them for himself transformed his understanding of the Bible. He then introduces the book's core theme: every believer already holds authority over the devil through Christ but must learn what belongs to them.

Key takeaways

- Paul's prayers in Ephesians 1 and 3 are for us today, not just the church at Ephesus. Pray them by inserting your own name in place of 'you'.
- The author prayed these prayers over a thousand times; after six months the 'spirit of wisdom and revelation' opened the Word to him more than 14 years of ministry had.
- Praying these prayers scripturally for others produces results where years of ordinary prayer did not.
- Authority over evil spirits belongs to ALL God's children, received at the new birth—not to a special few.

- The devil fights hardest to keep believers ignorant of their authority, because that knowledge ends his advantage.
- Blessings you own do you no good if you don't know you have them—like the beggar who died of malnutrition with \$23,000 in his money belt. Knowledge acted upon brings results.

Passages worth keeping

“There's no sin problem. Jesus settled that. There's just a sinner problem. Get the sinner to Jesus, and that cures the problem.”

Reframes evangelism: Christ already reconciled the world, so the task is bringing people to that finished work.

How it connects

The chapter ties personal Bible revelation to spiritual authority: you cannot exercise a right you don't know you have, so growth in the Word is the doorway to dominion over the enemy.

Scripture referenced

- **Ephesians 1:16-20** -- Paul's prayer for the spirit of wisdom and revelation and to know God's power
- **Ephesians 3:14-19** -- Paul's prayer to be strengthened inwardly and know Christ's love
- **Ephesians 6:12** -- Our wrestle is against spiritual powers—the basis for needing authority

- **Ephesians 1:3** -- We are blessed with every spiritual blessing in Christ
- **John 8:32** -- Knowing the truth sets you free
- **Hosea 4:6** -- God's people are destroyed for lack of knowledge