

Hagin, Kenneth E.The Believer's Authority

5. What Is Authority?

The chapter draws a line between 'power' and 'authority,' two different Greek words the King James Version blurs together. Authority is delegated power: the believer's own strength is not the point—God's power standing behind that authority is. So Christians can face the devil and his forces fearlessly, because those forces are obliged to recognize the authority Christ gave the Church.

Key takeaways

- In Luke 10:19 Jesus gives believers 'authority' over serpents and scorpions (the devil's forces), while the devil only has 'power'—two different Greek words the KJV renders alike.
- Authority is delegated power. Like a policeman stopping traffic by a raised hand, believers stop the enemy not by their own strength but by the authority Christ vested in them.
- The value of the authority rests on the power behind it—and God himself is that power.
- 'Be strong in the Lord' means strong in His might, not your own. Stand your ground and resist; don't rely on yourself.

- The Church today has no less authority than the first-century Church. Use it—hold up your hand and tell the devil to stop.

Passages worth keeping

“Authority is delegated power.”

The chapter's core definition.

“Greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.”

Why the believer's authority outmatches the enemy.

Scripture referenced

- **Luke 10:19** -- Authority over the enemy vs. the enemy's power
- **Eph. 6:10** -- Be strong in the Lord, not yourself
- **1 Peter 5:8-9** -- The devil as a roaring lion—resist him
- **1 John 4:4** -- The greater One is in you