

FROM DARKNESS TO LIGHT

Your Mission, Your Authority



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From Darkness to Light - Your Mission, Your Authority

Text: Acts 26:13 *At midday, O king, I saw in the way a light from heaven, above the brightness of the sun, shining round about me and them which journeyed with me. ¹⁴ And when we were all fallen to the earth, I heard a voice speaking unto me, and saying in the Hebrew tongue, Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me? it is hard for thee to kick against the pricks. ¹⁵ And I said, Who art thou, Lord? And he said, I am Jesus whom thou persecutest. ¹⁶ But rise, and stand upon thy feet: for I have appeared unto thee for this purpose, to make thee a minister and a witness both of these things which thou hast seen, and of those things in the which I will appear unto thee; ¹⁷ Delivering thee from the people, and from the Gentiles, unto whom now I send thee, ¹⁸ To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me.*

Introduction: The Moment of your Salvation: Everyone who has been born again has a story. It's the moment the light of Christ shattered the darkness in your life. It's the moment the Holy Spirit bore witness with your spirit, declaring, *You are a child of God!* (Romans 8:16) But that moment was not just for your benefit. It was your commissioning. Just as Paul was knocked off his horse and given a mission, so have we been saved for a purpose. This morning, we are moving from simply remembering our salvation to actively fulfilling His Commission.

1. The Conviction: We Have Misunderstood Our Mission

The Problem: Acting like helpless spectators in a world God has called us to conquer.

The Lie: "Spiritual warfare is for super Christians or the intercessors only. My job is just to be a nice person and hope someone asks me about my faith."

The Hard Truth: Our inaction leaves millions in chains. The lost are not just wandering; they are blinded by the god of this world.

2 Corinthians 4:3 *But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost: ⁴ In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.*

Our silence consents to their captivity.

The Confronting Question: Do I truly believe that the same power that saved me is the same power that Jesus said would work through me to do "even greater works"?

John 14:12 *Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father. ¹³ And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.*

Psalms 2:8 *Ask of me, and I shall give thee the heathen for thine inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth for thy possession.*

Or have I settled for a comfortable, powerless faith?

2. The Commission: God saved you to send you!

Paul's Pattern: On the road to Damascus, Jesus didn't just save Paul; He commissioned him. The purpose was clear: *to open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God... (Acts 26:18a)*. This is not a suggestion; it is the purpose of a rescued life.

Jesus Finished Work: This mission is not based on our strength, but on Christ's completed victory.

John 19:30 *...It is finished!...*

Colossians 2:11 (NKJV) *In Him you were also circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the sins of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ, ¹² buried with Him in baptism, in which you also were raised with Him through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead. ¹³ And you, being dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He has made alive together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses, ¹⁴ having wiped out the handwriting of requirements that was against us, which was contrary to us. And He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross. ¹⁵ Having disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it.*

THE WAR IS WON! WE ENFORCE HIS VICTORY

We Carry His Authority: Jesus did not suggest we "go." He commanded it, based on this unshakable truth: "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore, GO!"

Matthew 28:18 (NKJV) *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, baptizing 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.

3. The Empowerment: How We Fulfill This Mission

The Power Source: We do not convict hearts—the Holy Spirit does.

John 16:7 (NKJV) *Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you. ⁸ And when He has come, He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: ⁹ of sin, because they do not believe in Me; ¹⁰ of righteousness, because I go to My Father and you see Me no more; ¹¹ of judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged.*

Your Spiritual Arsenal: This is a spiritual battle, so we must use His spiritual weapons.

Ephesians 6:10 *Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. ¹¹ Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. ¹² For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. ¹³ Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.*

The Core Message: We are not sharing an opinion; we are releasing divine power.

Romans 1:16 *For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.*

Romans 10:13 (NKJV) *For “whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved.” ¹⁴ How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? ¹⁵ And how shall they preach unless they are sent? As it is written: “How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the gospel of peace, Who bring glad tidings of good things!”*

4. The Action: Your Response This Week

Action #1: Identify Your "One." - This week, pray and identify one person in your life who is living in spiritual darkness. Write their name down. Commit to praying for them by name every day, that their eyes would be opened.

Action #2: Engage that One with Bold Love. - Before you leave today, send a text of encouragement. This week, have a conversation and intentionally ask them a question about their spiritual life, or simply invite them for coffee. You are not called to preach a sermon yet, but to open a door.

Action #3: Proclaim the Promise - In your private prayer time, pray aloud over your "one" using the authority of Jesus' Name. Command Satan's blinding power to be broken in their life and declare that they will turn from darkness to light. Use the Word of God as your sword.

Conclusion: The Stakes of Our Obedience

The choice is stark. We can either be a part of Satan's blinding work through our silence, or we can be a part of Christ's liberating work through our obedience. Night is coming when no one can work (John 9:4). The time for a passive faith is over.

Proclaim together

1. **Galatians 2:20** *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.*
2. **I am anointed by God to open the eyes of the lost in Jesus' Name!**
3. **I have all authority over the Devil and demons in Jesus' Name!**
4. **I command in Jesus' Name and release people from Satan's grip!**
5. **I work the works of God by telling and praying His Good News in Jesus' Name!**
6. **I am sent in Jesus' Name to tell His Good News!**
7. **Signs and wonders follow me as I tell and pray His Good News in Jesus' Name!**
8. **Romans 10:9-10 is His Good News (NKJV)** *that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation!*

Worship God with your first-fruits, Tithes, Offerings, and Sacrifices

2 Corinthians 9:6 *But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully. ⁷ Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver. ⁸ And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work:*