

“HEALING THE BROKENHEARTED (PART 2)— WALKING IN YOUR TRUE AUTHORITY”

A POWERFUL WORD . . . AND I SENSED GOD SAYING, “PAY ATTENTION!”

One morning last week as I was doing some reading in preparation for our upcoming counseling sessions, I came upon a statement that was powerful to me. The author was sharing a prophetic word that had been given to his wife concerning himself, and it was as follows: “If ___ does not walk in his God-given authority, someone will take it from him and use it against him.” There are times when you read or hear something that you sense the Holy Spirit placing a huge “exclamation point” on it and saying “Pay attention to this!” This was one of those times. Although I knew this was important, I didn’t immediately understand its application to me.

LOOKING FOR THE APPLICATION . . . STILL TO COME

As we conducted an intensive ministry session that day, we were greatly blessed to see the Lord minister in a very powerful and personal way—revealing His love and bringing healing to some painful memories from the past. In the midst of that time, we did what we often do—that being we exercised our authority that we have in Christ to engage in spiritual warfare and bring more freedom to this individual. We also helped this client exercise his authority as a believer to do the same. The Lord “backed us up” in this ministry time, for which we are always very grateful, but it still didn’t seem that this was why God had prompted me earlier to “pay attention.”

HEALTHY SHAME VERSUS DESTRUCTIVE SHAME . . . THE POWER OF THE LIE

Later that afternoon, I ended up in a phone conversation with a client who was struggling with some very strong issues of shame (Note: I share this with his permission). As is often the case, when we fall into sin and the conviction of the Holy Spirit begins to touch our spirit, the feeling of “healthy shame” can slide quickly into ungodly or “toxic, destructive shame.” When this occurs, we lose sight of our true identity in Christ and thus we also “give up” our true authority as well and start believing the lies. When this occurs, someone (Satan and his demons) “takes” what we have “given up” and indeed “uses it against us.” As I spoke with this client who was struggling so much at the time, I, too, started to feel a bit confused. The things that I KNOW to be true were becoming somewhat clouded at that point. It was then that I realized that I had to stop and take back and exercise the authority that my client (and I) was giving up at that point. You see, the enemy knows how to bring in something that is true (i.e. our sin) and use it to cause us to believe things that are NOT true (i.e. that we no longer have our identity in Christ). There is always a “little truth in every lie,” and this ploy often hooks us. In this situation, it was necessary to see and proclaim the “higher truth”—that our sin does NOT define us—and no matter what we do, if we belong to Christ, our identity (and thus our authority) is secure and unchangeable. As we prayed together, things began to change, and this individual was also able to take back his God-given authority later that evening within his own home and family. This isn’t the end of the battle or the healing process, but it was and it remains necessary and critical in the days ahead for the fullness of healing and deliverance to occur.

ANOTHER LESSON TO BE LEARNED

I felt as though the Lord used the events of this particular day to cause me to again "WAKE UP" to the ways in which I could unknowingly "give up" my God-given authority. Although this can occur through the process of allowing overt sin and the resultant lies about ourselves to "steal" this from us (as mentioned previously), it can also occur in other ways. Although I hadn't been involved in any "overt" sin, and although I was exercising authority for others in the ministry times, I had been subtly "giving up" my God-given authority as it applied to my own personal life by being lulled into complacency. I am reminded again that unless we all remain alert to the subtle and deceptive ways of the enemy, we may find ourselves in need of a "wake-up call" from the One who so wants us to remain free and to have life (Jn. 10:10). I am grateful that we have such a Father!

PRAYER

Please pray with me . . . Father God, I once again see how much I need You. I need You to continue to help me see the times when I drift away from the truth . . . the truth about who You are and who I am in You. Father, awaken me to an even greater revelation of the authority that I have in You, simply because I am Your child and I believe in Your Son. And Father, when I fail or I fall, help me to be able to acknowledge it and run quickly and boldly back to Your Throne of Grace to find help in my time of need. Help me to stand against the deceiver and the accuser—for my own life, the life of my family, and for others You've called me to help to find freedom in You. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

From the Father's Heart,

Jerry Basel