

## Title: Authority Has Been Given

Grant Hill, Garden Gathering, 04/19/26

Well, good morning. I meant to send out this testimony earlier, but on Friday, we went to the soup kitchen down the road here, to do our Providence outreach. I am pointing at Nat, because he was a part of this testimony. He called me over to where an older gentleman in a red shirt and a Texan hat was standing with him. He told Nat he had something to tell me. Nat's been telling me about this guy, since he had come before. The man said, about two months ago he was not able to really walk because of the pain in his back and in his legs. I think it was sciatic pain. He came just randomly to the soup kitchen two months ago, and Nat had prayed for him. He came the next week because his back felt better. Then he came in for a prayer for his legs, and we prayed again. His legs felt better. He keeps coming. He says, "I just want to let you know that I used to be a praying man. Then when all of this happened, I turned away from the Lord. But the Lord has healed me, and I have no pain. I have no pain. You guys have led me back to the Lord." We said, "Amen!" So, I just said, "Well, let's glorify God right here, right now, together." There was a whirlwind of people around us. I just took his hand and he praised the Lord right there with people gathered close together. We just glorified the Lord for healing him and setting his literal feet on a path to walk on in the Spirit. He still comes to get prayer. He brought his niece for us to pray for this last time. So the Lord is on the move, and He heals hearts. He knows His sons and His daughters who need a touch, amen. So glorify the Lord with us. He is actively healing today. The man told us he's telling everybody, "You know how I was, and you know how crippled I was. Look at me now. I have no pain." That's why we seek God.

Today, we're going to be taught a little before we get to the meat or the encouragement of the word. So, we're going to get some teaching. We're going to kind of build. We do not ever want the supernatural and the glory of God to be common or mundane. We don't ever want the presence of the Lord to be expected in a way that we deserve it, but yet we want to expect it in faith. Right? We cannot think more highly of ourselves than we ought to. Yet, as we talked about last week, there is a boldness to ask God to move. Right? There's a difference in asking God in haughtiness and asking God in humility, and both can come with expectation. But it's the heart of it that God is looking at. In this, we do not ever want the supernatural and the glory of God to be common or mundane, but we do want the natural to be super. You do want the natural in your life to be super. Does this make sense? You don't ever want the supernatural to be common and mundane, but you do want your natural life to be super. That's hunger, yeah?

First you must understand why evil, calamity or afflictions happen. If we are for this supernatural life and the natural is supposed to be super, then that main question comes, "Why not right now? Why not right now? Why hasn't that happened right now? Why is this affliction upon me? Why has this evil happened? Or why has this calamity happened in my life?"

There are three *reasons*, and the first one is our willful sin. By our willful sin and choice to do evil, it comes back upon us. God is not mocked. Willful sin, evil, calamity and afflictions can come upon us, because of what we have sown. It reaps. What you have sown into your life, it'll come back, and you'll have to deal with those situations. The difference is, that you can have the Lord and deal with Him with you. He is full of goodness and mercy to a thousand generations, and He has not treated us according to our sin. So when you go before Him, and you say, "Lord, back in my day, this is what I did, and now I'm reaping the consequences of that in my family. I'm reaping the consequences with my sons and my daughters, because that was how I was back then. But, now I have you. Can you help me get reconciliation here?"

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Can you help me get grace in this situation? Because, I know you're not mocked. I still have to walk through this hard thing, but now I have you, and I need you. You see, there's a difference. Versus, if you don't have Him. There's just constant affliction and affliction, calamity and calamity. It's just constant.

Galatians 6:7-9 NKJV

So, that's the first way, that we have to understand why afflictions or calamity or evil is happening. It might be of our willful sin. You cannot just blame others all the time. We have to look at our heart.

Job 4:8 NKJV

“As I have seen those who plow iniquity and sow trouble, reap the same.” They reap iniquity and they reap trouble.

Proverbs 22:8 NKJV

“Whoever sows injustice will reap calamity and the rod of his fury will fail.”

The second point is you have to understand that mankind's initial sin put the Earth and dirt under a curse of futility. Futility means it's completely ineffective. We read this in the Genesis story. So, the first way is that evil and calamity and affliction come is by our willful sin. The second way is that our dirt is completely ineffective and fights against us. You ask, “What do you mean?” Well, our dirt is under futility. It's under and bound to the curse that we had placed on it by our own willful sin. God says, “Now, this is what must be done. This is what has come and this is what it will affect. This is the fall of mankind.”

Genesis 3:17-19 NKJV

We are dirt. There is a portion, right? God took us out of the dirt and breathed into us, okay? So then, if the dirt itself is bound in futility and completely ineffective, it will spring forth thorns and thistles. Just you in your dirt, right? Like scientists have said, who are smarter ones than me. I think it was probably chemists, because what else do they have to do? Right? No, I'm just kidding. They do a lot. Okay? My sister is a chemical engineer. They said that if you were to take all of the substances in your body, and if you didn't count your gold tooth or your titanium knees, do you know how much your actual makeup would be? About \$2.52 is about all you're worth. Okay? That's why doctors put in real value with those titanium knees, right? What is God saying? He says, “Look at how much you're actually worth. I can make something amazing with less than \$3. I guess with inflation, it might be \$5 now.” That's what He's trying to say. “You can't think of yourself more highly than you ought to. I made you out of dirt and you're dirt cheap. You are, and now look what I have done with you.”

But because we're dirt cheap, mutations come out, syndromes come forth, diseases and dystrophies. We have things that we have no understanding of, that are being produced. Tumors come from your body, and you're like, “How is that?” It's because that futility and complete ineffectiveness is in you. Some things that can't be explained come back to this. Why? Because the dirt is fighting against the flesh and is warring against the spirit. It comes all the way back to here, when we chose to sin and not obey God. We put the dirt, the Earth, under futility, and it is longing for its freedom. Just like you are longing for your freedom. Yeah. How do I know this? You're like, “I think I have heard this.” It's Romans chapter eight. Do you understand? Because we are of this dirt, its futility shows up. It floats up to the top, sometimes, in disorders, syndromes, mutations, dystrophies, auto immunities, blemishes, tumors, dim eyes, loss of hearing, and of course, this is to the detriment of the physical body through life. This is all because of that curse and its under futility.

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Romans 8:20-23 NKJV

Even in this, God did it in hope that it wouldn't just deteriorate to death forever. He's like, "I'm going to put a chain on this, and the curse is only going to go so far." So that I can get a way out and can have salvation from these things in hope. He's like, "We're going to slow it down so that Christ can come and save us all." Yes, He subjected it in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God." Wow! The redemption of the dirt, and the redemption of the futility.

This is why we seek to attain the resurrection of the dead today, that I might have that redemption. Now, "I have found the fountain of life." She read it. "I have found the fountain of my youth." Oh, I guess that was read on Wednesday. "I have found the fountain of my youth. It is the Lord." 'There is a river whose streams make glad the city of our God. I have found the fountain of life. It's Him. I finally found where I belong. It's in His presence.' Where is the fountain of life? We read in Revelation that, "There is a river that springs forth from under the throne of God, and it is the river of everlasting life. It is Him. It comes forth from Him. It is His Spirit that goes forth, that is the fountain of life." Yes.

Okay, even natural phenomenon like weather, tornadoes, hurricanes, derechos, typhoons and earthquakes. They're under this futility. It's part of calamity. It's part of this bondage and the groaning of the Earth and creation. Tornadoes appear, hurricanes appear, windstorms and derechos appear, typhoons appear, okay? This is because of all of us. But all the way back from granddaddy Adam and Eve, the Earth has been fighting against the Spirit of God.

One other thing that Adam did, though, was he handed over the keys of the dominion of the Earth to another. This one uses those things for evil and to steal, kill and destroy. Not every windstorm was made by Satan. But, Satan is using that for evil. You have to understand the difference, right? We understand that there are sicknesses that are from the pit of hell, but that's not where they necessarily originated, because Satan doesn't create anything. But he uses everything that's been created for evil, or to steal, or to kill, or to destroy. So the futility of our dirt, he uses against us. It's just how he works. He says, "You are so worthless, you couldn't even control your own domain. Now, I'm going to use that domain against you. You see it? Why? Because we were given the Earth. We were given dominion of this place. We said, "I'm going to give it to you." Yes. How do I know this? Sometimes things are happening just because of the futile state of the world. Why did that person have Down syndrome? Why did this mutation come up? Why would that hurricane spring forth right now? Sometimes it's just the world in the bondage that it's in. That's why it's groaning to be set free from this, and it's eagerly longing for the sons of God to be revealed. Because when our dirt is set free, then the Earth can be set free. No one fights against us, grows these thorns and thistles, makes us in pain, or eats our food. This is us, all right.

Luke 4:5-6 NKJV

In Luke four, this is the devil tempting our Lord. He tells Jesus something that explains what happened in the garden. So notice, it's not the Earth, that has been delivered to him, but the dominion, the kingdom and the authorities. Do you understand what has been given to him, the influence over the world, the power of the age to come, and the power of this world. The god of the heaven, and the god over it, is now the devil and his kingdom, and he has influence in that realm over the Earth, and it has been delivered to the devil. We said, "Devil, you can influence this. You can have control of speaking what to do in this world, and you have authority to give us ideas. You have authority to steal, kill and destroy and influence our Earth. We gave him those keys. Do you hear it?"

It doesn't say, though, that he was given the Earth. But, those who were given the Earth, gave him the kingdoms and gave him the authority to have dominion here. Who was that? Say, "Us."

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That is still why, when we agree with Heaven, Heaven can move, because it has been given to man, the Earth. When man says, "Jesus is King here," even if it be Nebuchadnezzar, who did not follow God, it has effect. Even if it be a heathen that says, "The one true God is Yahweh, and He is King of kings and Lord of these nations," it has effect. Because, it is man who has been given dominion, and is agreeing with who is really in charge, and who really has authority here, is why it matters. What you agree with, yes? I think things are clicking. I hear pops, yeah, good. This is good. "To you, I will give all this authority and their glory, for it has been delivered to me, and I give it to whomever I will."

Okay, so we know a tornado is coming. A hurricane is coming. The derecho is coming. You are asking why are you talking about derechos? Because, my family is from Iowa, and we've been hit by derechos for the first time ever in the last ten years. Okay? Derechos are massive wind storms. They just sweep through and knock out everything. Okay? They are like hurricane winds in the plains. They've been showing up lately. When that happens, the enemy takes hold of it and uses those winds to steal, kill and destroy. Because, John 10:10, says, "The devil comes to steal, kill and destroy," but Jesus says, "I am the Shepherd and I have come to bring life and life abundantly." So these storms happen, and they're spinning. The devil gets in, saying, "because I have influence and authority over the Earth, above the Earth and in the second Heaven. I'm going to stir this up and try to kill as many people as I can. I'm going to stir this up and try to steal as much as I can. I'm going to destroy." Or, this syndrome comes up. "I'm going to use it to make people hate God." Oh, this virus has sprouted. "I'm going to make a plague to make people die and curse God for it and blame Him for it." This is what he does.

Now, you say, "Grant, you know there are times in the Bible when God uses these things to judge the wicked." Yes, that is true, but He doesn't use it to judge the righteous. We have more than enough evidence that when He was judging the Egyptians, how many of the Israelites died? Oh, wait, what? That's where Christians miss it, because the devil says these things are happening to you because God needs to teach you a lot. He needs to punish you. He needs to show you. I've never seen in the Bible where the righteous are punished by the wrath of God. That's why we call for all to be saved and reconciled to Him, because when these things are being done, "There is salvation in the name of the Lord." "All who call upon His name are saved." "He is a Rock of strength." "He is a strong tower for those who come near Him and cling to Him." This is the reality.

But, the devil will say. "But, if you don't believe that, then He can't just pass over." The blood of the Lamb causes the spirit of death, the angel of death to pass over. You have the blood of the Lamb. Don't be blinded. Don't be deceived. Do not be deceived. God is not mocked. He's also not mocked by the devil.

#### Matthew 28:18 NKJV

Matthew 28 is called the Great Commission. We are going to read this a little differently. This is to the disciples before He goes back to Heaven in the flesh. "And Jesus came and spoke to them saying, "All authority in Heaven and on Earth has been given to Me." All right, I am in, Matthew 28:18, right? Yes, "All authority in Heaven and on Earth has been given to Me." He does not say, "all of the Earth has been given to Me." What does He say? "All authority." Why? Because, what did the devil tell him? "All kingdoms and authority had been delivered to me." This is where we get it confused, because we say, "Well, Jesus is King of the Earth." He says, not yet.' I have all authority, because you were the ones that I had given the dominion to in Genesis chapter two. Now you have the dominion, and through Me, you have the authority to go and make disciples." It's not about conquering land. It's always been about saving hearts.

Now you have the influence that the devil has been influencing you with. Now you control the atmosphere by My authority if you choose to go and make disciples. Now you have the Spirit

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of Truth that proclaims the truth against his lies. Because when Jesus came, it says that, "He was a light in the darkness." What was dark? The entire world was dark. There was no dominion of Heaven. "He was the light. He came." Now He says, "I went all the way down into hell, and I've come all the way out. I'm the light, and I give you the light. I give you the authority to go and take over the darkness, like I told them at the beginning." Yes, this is the Gospel of the Kingdom of Heaven. Now the light is in you, and the Kingdom of Heaven has been expanding. It has suffered violence, but the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand."

It is growing across the globe. That is the war that we have in the principalities. Because, when you go to a new region where that darkness hasn't been, it's like sending little fireworks. When it establishes and you have set up the substations, you grow the light and you take dominion. He says, "Then the Gospel of the Kingdom is preached to all the Earth, and I will come back." That's not a gospel of salvation. That's the Gospel of the Kingdom. What is the Kingdom? The Kingdom is not just sending a firecracker and saying, "Jesus come." No, it's sending the ambassadors to set up an established embassy in a region that shares and changes that domain to the Kingdom of Heaven. That's a little bit different. It's a little bit deeper. That's a lot more. It's a lot stronger. This is what you're called to do. This is why He says, "Hey, I'm coming quickly" two thousand years ago, yes?

"All authority," not, "all the kingdoms." Notice He didn't say that. Satan said, "All the kingdoms of the world in a moment, and all authority has been given to me." Jesus says, "All authority has been given to Me," not all the kingdoms. Did He fail? No, He's doing what He's always told us He was going to do. He says, "We're doing this together, because I do nothing without telling My prophets." It says in the book of Amos, "I do nothing without telling My prophets first, and telling My people first. They can establish a thing when they declare it. When they establish it, it allows, "Your Kingdom come, Your will be done on the Earth, like it is in Heaven." 'Oh, wait, we're not trying to get up there?' 'He's trying to come down here.'

When Jesus comes back, He's staying. Everybody looks at me saying, "What are you talking about? When Jesus comes back, He's staying." Yes! "I thought I was going to Heaven." He's bringing Heaven here. You are going to Heaven, but He's bringing it here. Do you understand? Yes, you can believe now, Heaven is here, Heaven is now, Heaven is moving in. Because, I am an ambassador of Heaven. I'm an ambassador of Christ, Who is Heaven on Earth. You hear it? You are learning. Say, "I'm learning. I'm growing." Don't lose sight of what I'm talking about. This is going to make a lot more sense.

#### Hebrews 2:8-9 ESV

"Now in putting everything in subjection to Him, He left nothing outside His control. At present, we do not yet see everything in subjection to Him. But we see Him who for a little while was made lower than the angels, namely Jesus, crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God He might taste death for everyone."

He's talking about Jesus. "You are putting everything in subjection under His feet." Now, the writer of Hebrews is saying, we know that God has given Him all the authority. We know that all things are under His control, but yet we see that not everything is subjected to Him right now. But, sometimes you live like it should be, and Jesus looks at you and says, "Well, you have the rod in your hand. You have the scepter of righteousness in your hand. When have you wielded it? You have the Spirit of truth, which is the sword of the Lord. When are you using it, because I gave you all authority to take dominion?"

This is the Gospel of the Kingdom, and not a religion of just going, doing, sitting and nothing. But, this is, "I am equipped for the work of the ministry." What work am I doing? "I am bringing Heaven to Earth." Why? "Because that's what Jesus did." 'Repent, change the way that you're

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thinking about Me, because the Kingdom of Heaven is in your hands. The Kingdom of Heaven is here, the Kingdom of Heaven is now. The Kingdom of Heaven is touching you. Change the way you're thinking.”

Yeah, this is cool. I think it's cool. It's right here. “Now, in putting everything in subjection to Jesus, He left nothing outside of Jesus's control.” But, He does not control us. He gives us free will. “At present, we do not yet see everything in subjection to Him.” He looks to us. We are ambassadors of Christ, yes. This is us, because we see it in Revelation, right? That's where we come in. We see in Revelation that there will be a day when all of the Earth is in subjection to Him. But, it's not there yet.

#### Revelation 11:15 ESV

There is an angel that blows his trumpet. It's the seventh angel, and there's a loud declaration that happens in Heaven. This is the end of time. This is after the seventh trumpet sounds in the tribulation. Then we see this amazing thing. Finally, in verse fifteen, it says, “The seventh angel blew his trumpet, and there were loud voices in Heaven saying, ‘The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever.’” But right now, we are living in Hebrews, where not everything is under His subjective rule, unless you go and rule with Him. That's what it says in Colossians three. “I didn't know I had that authority.”

#### Colossians 3:1-3 ESV

“If then you have been raised with Christ.” When were you raised with Christ? When you were baptized, you were buried, and then raised up. You have been raised with Christ. “Seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.” 2) “Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on the Earth.” 3) “For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.”

Okay, if my life is hidden with Christ, where am I? Oh, this is a geometry question. Let me read that again. So I have died, and my life is hidden with Christ. Verse two, “Set your mind on things above, not on things that on the Earth. Verse one, “If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above.” Where am I? I'm in Heaven. I am seated with Him in Heavenly places. So if you are seated with Christ in Heavenly places, then you have authority to rule and reign with Him. Yeah. This is, “Christ in you, the hope of glory.” It says, in Colossians two. “Set your mind on things above where you are seated.” If you have been raised with Christ, look at what you are doing. You're in a government position. You are in the Council of the Lord. You are in the Sons of God Council because you have been adopted as a son by the blood of the Lamb, and your spirit man is made whole and righteous and holy. It can stand before God. You ask, “Then why do I sometimes feel this guilt?” Because that's your dirt that's fighting against the spirit and must be cleansed, sanctified, purified and justified. You work out your salvation with fear and trembling it says in Philippians. This is that. He has subjected the dirt, in hope that we would be glorified through Christ. Beautiful, yes, I think it's beautiful.

Because we are getting closer every day to Jesus bringing the kingdom and ruling and reigning here, the devil has a heyday. He tries to bring affliction and evil and calamity as often as he can. It's going to get worse, because he knows the hour is near. He is about to be done, where he will have no more influence and no way to torment minute by minute, hour by hour. He has tried to steal every person's life, take away their destiny, take away what God has told about them, make them blind and not see the truth. Because there is a salvation, and there is eternal life. There is not condemnation in the hand of God, but the devil will tell you otherwise, yeah?

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We have been given the authority to pray, to forgive, to ask, to seek the Lord, to bring the Kingdom of God and the Kingdom of Heaven, to the Earth. We realize that it's not here yet, but it's coming. We read that there will be a seventh trumpet sounded where everybody will know. Now, all of the Earth is under the domain of the King, and we are now subject to Him. Every knee will bow and every eye will see. But until then, I am here to pray, and whoever I forgive is forgiven. This is the call. You're doing good. Say, "I'm doing good."

Second Corinthians 5:18-20 ESV

"All this is from God, who through Christ, reconciled us to Himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation."

It's all through Christ, but He has given you the ministry of reconciliation. What are we reconciling? The dirt, you're reconciling the dirt. That's all that has to be reconciled. Heaven doesn't need to be reconciled. The dirt was lost, now He has given that to us. He's given it to us. Saying, "All authority has been given to Me, and here is the work of the ministry. Reconcile this place to me, but not to just set up a shop in a town and a place that nobody ever lives. Go and save the souls, because I am about the heart. I don't care about land. I have all of the cattle on a thousand hills. I don't care about gold. I use it as my pavement. I don't care about the dirt. I care about the souls that are in the dirt."

Oh, wait, that's a parable about a man who went and dug in the dirt and found gold. He went and sold everything he had to get the gold. That's what Jesus is calling you to. Don't seek the land. Seek the gold in the land, which is always the hearts. It's always the soul. You see it? The ministry of reconciliation has been given to us. Verse 19) "That is, in Christ, God was reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation." 20) "Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ. God making His appeal through us. We implore you, on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God." That's the call, amen.

Luke 11:9-13 ESV

Jesus is teaching his disciples about prayer. This is where the the Lord's prayer comes in, but we're going to go further down. 9) "And I tell you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you." 10) "For everyone who asks, receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks, it will be opened." 11) "What father among you, if his son asks for a fish, will instead of a fish, give him a serpent." 12) "Or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion?" 13) "If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!"

This is where the boldness that Brandy talked about last week comes in. You have to know, as it says in Hebrews 11, "That He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him." If you know, "That God is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him," then you have boldness in humility to ask.

It has been said that in the Greek it says, keep on asking, keep on seeking, and keep on knocking. But the boldness comes in that, if you really know how good the Father is, you would never think that He has given you poison. You would never think that He had put a scorpion in your hand to sting you with cancer. You would never think that He would give you a serpent to bite you on the wrist to teach you a lesson. Well, then where did that idea come from? Because, I've been taught that God teaches through punishments and through sickness and through diseases. The bottom line is that when we fail, or when we feel like we fail in prayer, then religion makes it easier to say, "God did it."

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Because I don't know what I did wrong, it's easy. It's an easier way. Religion will always sell you short to make the path easier. I've learned it is easier to just say, "I don't know why my prayer of faith isn't working. It must be God." Versus, "I need to get closer to God, and I need to bring the Kingdom of Heaven here." "I don't know what's going on, but I understand that this is dirt, and is not God's fault. This is our fault, and it started all the way back in Genesis three. That bloodline of Adam is the bloodline in me. This futility is completely ineffective unless God moves. The only way I'm going to go and this is going to work, is if I know God. He's the only one that can change it."

That's what Jesus was showing us. He showed them, "You can't do anything without me." Yet, religion will sell you that. Religion makes the Spirit easier to handle. I told you this. Religion will sell you the debt and make it in manageable payments. What's the debt? "All that I have. All that I have, is yours." Religion goes, "Well, you can pay a little bit of you, and a little bit of all you have, and you go around and around and around. You grind a form of godliness, but deny its power.

The Holy Spirit says, "If you just give Me all of *you*, it's all I've ever asked." This is hard, but that's the walk, that's the narrow path, and that's the way. You see it? He's like, "You guys are evil, and you would never give your child a serpent, but yet you accuse Me of it. You would never give your son a scorpion, but yet you can finagle a way to show and blame Me for it. This is the way of dirt. It's never our fault. It was the woman's fault. It's never the woman's fault. It was the serpent's fault." We will always figure out a way to blame. You understand?

Boldness comes in when you know how good God is. Boldness will take root in your heart when you really know how good He is, because if you really know how good God is, you're unafraid to ask for impossible things. You're not afraid to keep knocking for impossible things. You're not afraid to keep seeking impossible things. Yeah, we talk about it. We talk about when you're hungry for the impossible things. It's because you know how good God is. If you're just hungry to make it into Heaven, you're just hungry for a nice, comfy seat to sit in. But, the work of the ministry needs workers. They need people. The Kingdom of Heaven needs people who will set their hand to the plow and not look back. The Kingdom of Heaven needs people that say, "I don't understand this affliction, but it's not going to deter me from the truth of the Word. This is because of me and my forefathers. This affliction has come up, but it shall not come up again."

There was a gentleman. I can't remember his name, but during one of those plagues, I think it was the Spanish Influenza. He was a believer who would go help those and pray for those in the sick beds with the flu. But, he would never get it. Who is that guy? John G. Lake, thank you. He would never get it. They finally asked him, "How are you praying for this and never getting the Spanish Influenza?" He was like, "Well, you can test it," and they did. They got a microscope, and they set a petri dish containing the Spanish Influenza *virus* in his hand. Guess what happened? It died in his hand. Why? Because he just believed and kept believing. You just believe and you keep believing. He does not call you the Savior. He calls you the believers. You are a believer, you are a follower, and you are a disciple. Your job is to believe. You are a believer. "I am a believer in Jesus. I am a follower of the Way. What am I to do, believe? What am I to do, follow?" Don't make it more complicated than it is. That's it. You have been wed to One, and wherever He goes, you go and you believe, yes!

The Father does not give us poison or venom or sickness or disease. The devil uses these when there is an open door to steal, kill and destroy. The devil is ultimately a good lawyer. He goes before God. When he sees any one of these things, willful sin, or the futility of man, or a generational iniquity from your forefathers. He goes and says, "God, I have these reasons that I want to do this for it, and it's not under the blood of Jesus. So I have legal right to afflict."

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God says, "Rats, that is true, but you can only go this far." How do we know that? We read it in Job. Satan comes before Him three times saying, "This is what I want to do." You don't see that part, but he gives the reasons why. God says, "I don't have Christ yet, but you can only go this far." Yet, we think God's the one doing it. But God's like, "I have given man free will. I will not control their every move. I will not control you. I will not come and fix everything, because you are My sons, and you are My daughters. I want to do this with you, co laboring in Christ." Satan is a great lawyer. He always goes before God and he says, "This is what I want to do with Grant. This is not under the blood. This is under the blood and this is under the blood. So I have no effect there." That's why we constantly say, "Go to the Rock, fall on the Rock, and get it under the blood. Repent quickly. Get forgiven, because that leaves no door open to the devil to afflict you, or to cause calamity. Seek the Lord. Seek His face. Lift up your head. Be forgiven. Receive it for guilt and shame and condemnation. Get that out of there. You are not called to be guilty."

Yes, He knows how to give good gifts, and He does give them willingly to us. "Are you willing, Lord. Of course, I'm willing." "Are you willing to heal? Of course I'm willing." You keep asking, you keep seeking, and you keep knocking. Sometimes the answer is, "I don't know." You have to be okay with that. Why? "I don't know, but I'm a believer." Why didn't this happen? "I don't know, but I am to believe." It's not because of God. It was because of us. It's because of the dirt, the \$2.52 that threw it all into this place at the beginning.

For the reconciliation of this region here in Texas, we are after the glory of God. For the reconciliation of these people and these souls in this city, in this region, in this state, we are after the glory of God, because they need it. They have to have it. This gentleman that we met, he had to have the glory of God. He didn't say, "I'm so thankful that you prayed for me to walk again." He didn't say, "I'm just so thankful that I have no pain." He said, "I used to pray, but now you have led me back to God." The signs and the wonders are to get them to God. The signs and the wonders are to get them to God, yes, amen. For the reconciliation of this region to God the Father, we seek the glory by encountering the glorious power of the one true, Holy Spirit. Amen, thank you.

Let's stand. If you need us to pray or have need of anything, we're here.

"Lord Jesus, we bless your name. I honor you, and I thank you, Father, for boldness. It says in Hebrews, "that we can come boldly before the throne of grace with confidence," in asking, seeking and knocking. Let us not grow weary in doing good. Let us not grow weary in believing in God. We seek your face. We are knowing how the Kingdom of God works. We are knowing how the kingdom of Satan works in his schemes, and we are not unaware of his schemes and his plans. But Lord, we bind all deception and all error. We command to leave our minds now, all lying spirits that said otherwise and cause doubt and unbelief about who God is. Saying, "That's great for Grant, but it's different for me." It's not the truth. God is the same. He has shown no partiality. He has rejected no one. He has not hidden His face from anyone, but He longs for all to see His face. We thank you, Father for this. In Jesus' mighty name we pray, amen."